



I WILL PRAY WITH THE SPIRIT, I WILL PRAY  
WITH THE UNDERSTANDING ALSO : I WILL SING  
WITH THE SPIRIT, AND I WILL SING WITH THE  
UNDERSTANDING ALSO.

1 COR. XIV. 15.

A  
TRANSLATION  
OF THE  
BOOK OF PSALMS  
FROM THE  
ORIGINAL HEBREW  
WITH  
EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## P R E F A C E.

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I. IN preparing a new Edition of their Translation of the Book of Psalms, the Translators are not unmindful of the very considerable period of time, which has elapsed, since their work originally appeared. It may possibly be thought that, as the first Edition has been for several years out of print, they should have sooner resumed their labours, and brought to an earlier termination the task, which they have just completed. If they now refrain from offering any apology for the delay, that has occurred, it is because time and opportunity have enabled them gradually to correct the errors, which are almost unavoidable in a first Impression, and so to render this Edition more worthy of the reader's perusal and favour.

II. In the present volume, the Translators have retained that form of exhibiting the Psalms, which the structure of the sentences in the original Hebrew appears, in their judgment, to suggest and require. That there is generally in these compositions some artificial arrangement, they conceive to be unquestionable ; such arrangement having been chosen, either to adapt the Psalms to music, or to assist the memory, or to inculcate divine truth with the more sure effect, or to attain all these objects collectively. The leading peculiarity in the lan-

guage of the Psalms is this. Each sentence is usually divided into two parts, closely corresponding to each other; not so much, however, in the number of the syllables contained in them, as in the ideas which they severally express. A reference to Psalm xix. 7—9 (a passage, which beautifully displays this kind of writing) will at once sufficiently illustrate and establish the truth of this remark.

III. The Translators desire farther to state that, when revising and reconsidering their former conclusions, they have acted upon the principles of interpretation detailed in the Preface to the first Edition, availing themselves of such assistance as the several Translations and Commentaries on the Psalms, published upon the Continent within the last twelve years, could supply. A comparison of the present, with the Edition which preceded it, will readily show that, numerous as are the points in which they vary from each other, these variations consist rather in the mode of expression, than in any actual differences of meaning. Some modifications and changes, it is true, in the views of the Translators regarding particular passages, have taken place; and these, they have introduced, and supported by such authorities as seemed to warrant them. But the reader will perceive that the present work is more especially distinguished from the former, by a careful recurrence to the *language* of the Liturgical, as well as the Authorised, Version of the Psalms. Upon the relative merits of these Versions, the Translators do not feel themselves called upon to pass any formal judgment. At the same time,

they cannot but remember and acknowledge that to the venerable Prayer Book Version, although it be confessedly less literal and correct than that of the Bible, is to be almost entirely attributed the happy and extensive influence, which the Psalms have ever exercised over the National Literature, and the tone of religious feeling among the Community.

This Version it is, which has for ages guided the steps, soothed the sorrows, supported the faith, and animated the hopes of our Fathers; and hence are we ready, with reverent and heartfelt gratitude, to exclaim respecting it: "For our brethren and companions' sakes, we will wish thee prosperity."

IV. With the view of laying before their readers the intrinsic excellencies of the Psalms, and thereby showing the grounds upon which this portion of the Inspired Volume holds so pre-eminent a place in the Christian Ritual, the Translators willingly adopt the judicious and powerful observations of a highly honoured Father of the English Church.

"The choice and flower of all things profitable in other books, the Psalms do both more briefly contain, and more movingly also express, by reason of that poetical form wherewith they are written. The ancients, when they speak of the Book of Psalms, use to fall into large discourses, shewing how this part above the rest doth of purpose set forth and celebrate all the considerations and operations which belong to God; it magnifieth the holy meditations and actions of divine

men; it is of things heavenly an universal declaration, working in them whose hearts God inspireth with the due consideration thereof, an habit or disposition of mind whereby they are made fit vessels, both for receipt and for delivery of whatsoever spiritual perfection. What is there necessary for man to know, which the Psalms are not able to teach? They are to beginners an easy and familiar introduction, a mighty augmentation of all virtue and knowledge in such as are entered before, a strong confirmation to the most perfect amongst others. Heroical magnanimity, exquisite justice, grave moderation, exact wisdom, repentance unfeigned, unwearied patience, the mysteries of God, the sufferings of Christ, the terrors of wrath, the comforts of grace, the works of Providence over this world, and the promised joys of that world which is to come, all good necessarily to be either known, or done, or had, this one celestial fountain yieldeth. Let there be any grief or disease incident unto the soul of man, any wound or sickness named, for which there is not in this treasure-house a present comfortable remedy at all times ready to be found.

Hereof it is, that we covet to make the Psalms especially familiar unto all. This is the very cause why we iterate the Psalms oftener than any other part of Scripture besides; the cause wherefore we inure the people together with their minister, and not the minister alone, to read them, as other parts of Scripture he doth."

CAMBRIDGE,

*May 24, 1842.*



## PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

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THE BOOK OF PSALMS has so often engaged the attention of the learned, that the bare enumeration of such works, as have for their object the illustration of these divine hymns, would be a task of considerable extent and labour. This portion of the sacred volume has been repeatedly translated into the language of every Christian community; and has also been furnished, from time to time, with a variety of useful comments, drawn from the most valuable and recondite sources. Should this consideration suggest the idea, that no adequate advantage is likely to arise from any further endeavour to explain these writings, it ought to be borne in mind, that the existence of so many expositions of the Psalms can be accounted for, only by the difficulties attending the correct interpretation of them; and thus affords no slight presumption that difficulties even yet remain, upon which information is required.

But there is no need of relying upon this inference, in order to prove the expediency of attempting a new English version of the Psalms. The zeal with which

the study of Eastern literature has, of late years, been prosecuted in Europe, added to the great and continually increasing attention, paid to every branch of biblical criticism, will fully justify the attempt. For it is indisputable, that some new light has hence been thrown, as well upon this as upon other parts of Holy writ; and this additional light, whatever may be the degree of its importance, it cannot but be proper to communicate to the Christian world.

It will scarcely be denied, at the present day, that, when searching for the precise and full meaning of the language of Scripture, recourse should be had to every collateral aid, of which the nature of the subject will allow. To draw a broad line of distinction, in this respect, between the Hebrew Bible and every other ancient record, appears little consonant to the principles of sober judgment, and is clearly incompatible with all freedom of enquiry, even when exercised with the utmost reverence and caution. The difficulties to be encountered are the same, for the most part, in kind, although differing in degree. Who, then, will venture to affirm that those methods, which are acknowledged to have been eminently successful in the furtherance of profane learning, are not also to be applied, with due limitations, to the elucidation of the sacred text? The Hebrew Scriptures, however, from the peculiar circumstances under which they have come down to the present time, do not admit of so extensive an application of these means, as other writings of antiquity. There exists, for example, no contemporaneous and independent authority, with which

the several forms of expression, found in the Hebrew Bible, can be immediately compared. Not only many individual words, but many Hebrew idioms, occur but once in the Scriptures, comprising, as they do, the whole extent of Hebrew literature. Independently, therefore, of the difficulties, appertaining equally to the interpretation of the Hebrew Bible and of every other ancient writing, there are also others, of no ordinary magnitude, which belong exclusively to that particular subject.

Without dwelling longer upon these general topics, fertile though they are in matters of interesting speculation and enquiry, the Translators will now proceed briefly to point out the course, which they have thought it proper to pursue, with the view of ascertaining the true import of the Psalmist's language.

Their first and principal study has been, to make Scripture its own interpreter, as well by comparing carefully all those passages which contain any proposed word of doubtful meaning, as by estimating the exact force of each idiomatic expression from a diligent examination of the various contexts in which it occurs. While thus employed, they have uniformly assigned most importance to those books of Holy writ which, in age and character, approach nearest to that which they were translating. They have, moreover, sought for an explanation of the elliptic phraseology, so frequent in poetical compositions, from the more full and less artificial language of historical narrative.

Whenever, from the narrow limits of Hebrew literature, their object could not be thus accomplished by means of any of the other books of Scripture, they have availed themselves of the ancient versions of the Bible—of the kindred dialects of the Hebrew—of the stores of Rabbinical learning and of the works of ancient and modern interpreters and commentators, both Jewish and Christian. And they are perfectly ready to admit that, in one or other of these treasure-houses of knowledge, may, for the most part, be discovered some trace at least, if not the very substance, of those *renderings* which, in the following pages, are at variance with the authorized version of the Psalms.

The plan, adopted by the Translators, of assigning but one meaning to any single word or sentence, even although the real import of the one or the other may be yet unsettled, necessarily gives a dogmatical cast to all their explanations. They are neither insensible nor indifferent to the charges which may be brought against them on this head. Purposing, however, to furnish merely a Manual of the Psalms, they conceived that, to encumber their translation with tedious and intricate disquisitions would have been to depart entirely from the plan, which they had prescribed to themselves; and that, consistently with this design, they could only state the particular interpretation, which seemed to them, after mature deliberation, to have the balance of argument and authority in its favour. The Translators do not wish to conceal the fact that, with regard to several words and expressions, their minds long wavered in

doubt and uncertainty, and were eventually determined by only a slight preponderance of evidence; nor do they deny that, as to the precise meaning of some few passages in the Psalms, their opinion is even yet far from being decidedly formed. They deem it right to add that, in these latter instances, they have adhered, in the main, to the present Authorized Version.

The Hebrew Bible, taken by the Translators as their standard, is that of Van Der Hooght. They have not themselves indulged in conjectural emendations of the text, nor have they paid any regard to the unwarranted alterations which have been, but too often, rashly hazarded by others. Wherever they have departed from the usually received reading, some manuscript authority will generally be found to sanction the deviation; or, if not, an inspection of the passage will readily show that the change, which they have introduced, is not of a nature materially to affect the integrity of the Hebrew text.

The aim of the Translators has been, to produce an accurate and a faithful, rather than a highly coloured, portraiture of the original. To this end, they have constantly kept in view the sound and established principles of grammatical interpretation. In no case have they intentionally departed from the literal meaning of the text, further than the difference between the English and the Hebrew idioms seemed, in their judgment, absolutely to require. Such Hebraisms as are either, in themselves, not liable to be misunderstood, or are ren-

dered intelligible by long and familiar use, have been scrupulously retained in the translation. And although those, of less frequent occurrence and less obvious import, have not been admitted; the reader is enabled at once to judge of the propriety of the expressions which have been substituted, by comparing them with the literal meaning of the corresponding Hebrew words, inserted at the foot of the page. Upon the laws of *grammatical* interpretation, the Translators cannot now enlarge, without losing sight of their immediate object. Of the extreme importance of these laws, they are fully aware. In fact, at the commencement of their labours, they contemplated adding to the following work a regular series of philological notes. But this idea was afterwards abandoned; and these notes will, probably, form, at some future time, the substance of a separate publication.

The reader will perceive that no notice has been taken by the Translators of the various inscriptions or titles, prefixed to many of the Psalms. In justification of this omission, it may be observed that these titles are involved in so much doubt and obscurity, that they cannot be made the basis of any safe and useful conclusion whatsoever. Very considerable importance would undoubtedly attach to them, could they be adduced, with effect, to determine the authors of particular Psalms; but, with reference even to this point, they do not appear to be entitled to much consideration, since the *internal* evidence of the Psalms themselves is often irreconcilable with the statements, contained in these

inscriptions. To this evidence, from its nature, the utmost deference is obviously due; and the general result to which it leads is that, although some few of the Psalms may belong to very early periods of Jewish history, and others were composed subsequently to the Babylonish captivity, there remains so large a portion of them, which must be ascribed to the Royal Prophet, as to account sufficiently for the whole collection having been designated THE PSALMS OF DAVID.

JESUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE,

*May 11, 1830.*

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THE  
BOOK OF PSALMS.

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PSALM I.

- 1 **HAPPY** the man,  
Who doth not walk by the counsel of the wicked,  
Nor stand in the path of sinners,  
Nor sit in the seat of scoffers;  
2 But taketh delight in the law of **JEHOVAH**,  
And meditateth upon His law, by day and night!  
3 He is like a tree, planted near streams of water,  
Which yieldeth its fruit in due season,  
The leaf whereof fadeth not,  
Yea, all, which it beareth, doth flourish.

I.

1 *walk*—i. e. conduct himself. In this and the two following lines the general conduct of life is described in familiar language, the propriety of which is sufficiently obvious.

2 *taketh delight*—Heb. *his delight* (is).

3 *streams*—i. e. small canals cut in the ground for the purpose of irrigation. In Egypt, watered as it is by the Nile, this process was very general; and the neighbouring na-

tions would therefore be acquainted with it.

3 *due season*—Heb. *its season*.

— *all &c.*—This passage is illustrated by the description given of the fate of the wicked in Job xv. 30. 32, 33.—“the flame shall *dry up his branches*.”—“It shall be *accomplished* (marginal reading, *cut off*) *before his time*, and his *branch shall not be green*.” “He shall shake off his *unripe grape* as the vine, and shall *cast off his flower* as the olive.”

- 4 Not so are the wicked,  
 But like the chaff, which the wind scattereth.  
 5 Thus the wicked shall not stand in the judgment,  
 Nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.  
 6 Because JEHOVAH careth for the way of the righteous,  
 But the way of the wicked cometh to nothing.

## PSALM II.

- 1 WHY do the gentiles tumultuously assemble,  
 And why do the people meditate a vain attempt?  
 2 Why do the kings of the earth put themselves in array,  
 And the rulers sit together consulting,  
 Against JEHOVAH,  
 And against His Anointed?  
 3 "Let us burst Their bonds asunder,  
 "And cast away from us Their shackles."

4 *Not so*—i. e. not like a tree thus favourably planted.

5 *stand in the judgment*—i. e. succeed when their cause is decided. The terms "to stand" and "to fall" are sometimes used in a legal sense, signifying respectively success and failure. Compare Ps. v. 5. and Ps. cix. 7.

— *nor sinners &c.*—i. e. these will not have a place amongst the true worshippers of Jehovah. Compare Ps. xv.

6 *careth for*—Heb. *knoweth or owneth*.

— *the way of the wicked*—unsupervised and unprotected, as it is, by Jehovah.

— *cometh to nothing*—Heb. *perisheth*—i. e. ends in disappointment, however prosperous it may, in the first instance, appear. Compare Ps. cxii. 10.

## II.

This Psalm is prophetic. See Acts iv. 24—27. xiii. 33. Heb. i. 5. v. 5.

It alludes to the hostile attempts of the enemies of the royal house of David, intimating that these troubles are one day to cease, when his august descendant, the Messiah, shall reign as universal Lord.

We are not to be surprised at the warlike tone of this composition, as being ill suited to the peaceful character of the Messiah's kingdom. In its primary and literal sense (Compare Ps. xvi. 9. Note), it applies to king David, and entirely accords with the idea entertained *at the time* by the Jewish people, in common with other nations, as to the nature of the kingly office. "Nay but we will have a king over us that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us *and go out before us and fight our battles*." 1 Sam. viii. 19.

3 The Psalmist introduces the words used by the enemies of Jehovah and His Messiah.

4 HE, who sitteth enthroned in the heavens, laugheth at them;  
The Lord hath them in derision.

5 Then He speaketh unto them in His anger,  
And in the heat of His wrath doth He confound them:

6 "But as for Me, I have anointed My King  
"Upon Sion, My holy mountain."

7 I will declare the decree of JEHOVAH.

HE said unto Me:

"Thou art My Son,

"This day have I begotten Thee.

8 "Ask of Me,

"And I will give Thee the gentiles for Thine inheritance,

"And for Thy possession the uttermost parts of the earth.

9 "Thou shalt crush them with a rod of iron;

"Like a potter's vessel, shalt Thou break them in pieces."

10 Now, therefore, O ye kings! be wise;

Receive instruction, ye rulers of the earth!

11 Serve JEHOVAH with fear,

And rejoice with trembling.

6 The Psalmist introduces Jehovah saying: Be assured, however, that I have &c.

— *I have anointed &c.*—i. e. I have invested with sovereignty. Compare Prov. viii. 23. We read that David was first actually anointed at Bethlehem, in the presence of his brethren, by Samuel. 1 Sam. xvi. 13. Subsequently the men of Judah anointed him upon Hebron to be king over the house of Judah. 2 Sam. ii. 4. Lastly the Elders of Israel anointed him, also upon Hebron, to be king over Israel. 2 Sam. v. 3. 1 Chron. xi. 3. The sacred History does not inform us that David was ever anointed upon Sion, but it is worthy of observation, that, not till after he had conquered the Jebusites

and made Sion the Royal residence, did David "perceive that the Lord had established him king over Israel." Then "David perceived that the Lord had confirmed him king over Israel, for his kingdom was lifted up on high, because of his people Israel." 1 Chron. xiv. 2. Compare Ps. cx. 2.

7 *begotten Thee*—see Ps. LXXXIX. 27.

8 *uttermost parts*—"And the same of David went out into all lands, and the Lord brought the fear of him upon all nations." 1 Chron. xiv. 17.

9 See Ps. xlv. 2.

11 *Serve Jehovah*—by submitting yourselves to the authority of the king anointed by Jehovah.

— *rejoice &c.*—i. e. show, at the exaltation of the Messiah, reverential

- 12 Kiss His Son, lest He be angry,  
And ye perish in your course;  
For soon His anger will kindle.

Happy all, who take refuge with Him!

### PSALM III.

- 1 JEHOVAH! how greatly do mine enemies increase!  
How many are those, who rise up against me!  
2 How many are those, who say of me:  
“There is no help for him in God!”

- 3 But Thou, JEHOVAH! art a shield about me;  
Thou art my glory, and the lifter up of my head.  
4 With my voice unto JEHOVAH do I call,  
And He answereth me from His holy mountain. *Zion (26) 112*  
5 I lie down, and I fall asleep;  
I awake, because JEHOVAH upholdeth me. *Ps. 133:1-3*  
6 I am not afraid of the ten thousands of people,  
Who on every side set themselves in array against me.

feelings of joy and gratitude suitable to that auspicious event. Compare Ps. xlv. 15. and Ps. lxxii. 17.

12 *Kiss*—Kissing was an act of homage paid to a newly appointed king. “Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, Is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance?” 1 Sam. x. 1.

— *He*—i. e. Jehovah.

#### III.

2 *There is &c.*—i. e. God will not interfere to save him. See Ps. lxxi. 11.

3 *my glory*—i. e. the Author of my greatness.

3 *the lifter up of my head*—i. e. the Giver of victory to me.

4 *do I call &c.*—i. e. I am wont to call and Jehovah to answer me favourably.

— *He answereth me &c.*—i. e. God graciously interposes, declaring His favour to me from the “hill of Sion,” where His constant presence is symbolically exhibited. See Ps. cx. 2.

5 *I lie down &c.*—i. e. my confidence in my God is such that I no sooner lie down to rest than I fall asleep. Compare Ps. iv. 8.

— *I awake*—i. e. I awake after having enjoyed my natural rest.

7 Arise, JEHOVAH!

Save me, O my God!

For Thou hast smitten all mine enemies upon the cheekbone—  
Thou hast broken in pieces the teeth of the wicked.

8 To JEHOVAH belongeth salvation.

Upon Thy people be Thy blessing!

### PSALM IV.

1 WHEN I call, answer me, O God of mine innocency!

Thou hast set me at large in my strait!

Be gracious unto me, and hear my prayer.

2 O ye sons of men!

How long will my dignity be your scorn?

How long will ye cherish a vain purpose?

How long will ye follow after a deceitful hope?

3 Know that JEHOVAH hath set apart for Himself the pious.

JEHOVAH heareth when I call unto Him.

4 Tremble and sin not,

Commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still.

7 *For Thou hast &c.*—i. e. Unto Thee do I *now* call, because Thou hast *heretofore* smitten, &c. See ver. 4. and Note. Compare Ps. iv. 1.

— *smitten &c.*—The expressions here employed refer to the methods by which a wild beast is deprived of its most formidable weapons, and rendered comparatively harmless.

— *all mine enemies*—i. e. my many enemies.

#### IV.

1 *of mine innocency*—i. e. of me innocent. Compare Ps. vii. 8. Ps. xvii. 1. and Ps. xxxv. 27.

— *Thou hast set &c.*—i. e. In my

present distress, I call upon Thee, because Thou hast, in former troubles, delivered me.

2 *cherish &c.*—Heb. *love vanity*.

— *a vain purpose*—see Ps. ii. 1.

— *follow &c.*—Heb. *seek after fal-lacy*.

4 *Tremble*—for the consequences of opposing the choice made by God.

— *commune &c.*—reflect at this which is the most favourable season for consideration. Reflection is beautifully expressed in the Hebrew by the soul holding silent communion with herself.

— *be still*—See Ps. cxxxi. 2. where this expression is clearly applied to

- 5 Offer righteous sacrifices,  
And put your trust in JEHOVAH.
- 6 Many say: "O that we might see prosperity!"  
JEHOVAH! lift up the light of Thy countenance upon us!
- 7 Thou hast put gladness into my heart  
Above theirs, when their corn and their new wine abound.
- 8 I lie down in peace, and fall asleep at once,  
Because Thou, JEHOVAH!—  
Thou alone makest me to dwell securely.

## PSALM V.

- 1 GIVE ear unto my words, JEHOVAH!  
Consider my sighing;
- 2 Hearken to the voice of my cry, my King and my God!  
For unto Thee do I pray.
- 3 JEHOVAH! every morning Thou hearest my voice,  
Every morning do I prepare for thy service, and watch.

the preserving of the mind unruffled by ambitious projects.

5 *Offer &c.*—and think not to propitiate the Almighty by sacrifices offered without purity of intention.

6 *Many*—probably these were desponding followers of David.

— *O that we &c.*—Heb. *who will cause us to see good.*

— *lift up &c.*—regard us with favour. Compare Ps. LXXX. 3. 7. 19.

7 *Thou hast &c.*—This is said under a firm conviction that the foregoing prayer would be granted.

— *gladness Above theirs &c.*—Heb. *gladness above the time their &c.* "They joy before Thee according to the joy in harvest." Isai. ix. 3.

8 *In peace*—of mind, however harassed by the multitude and violence of my enemies.—"The work of

righteousness shall be *peace*; and the effect of righteousness *quietness* and *assurance* for ever." Isai. xxxii. 17.

8 *I lie down &c.*—I no sooner lie down than I fall asleep. "Thou shalt lie down, and none shall make thee afraid." Job xi. 19. Compare Ps. iii. 5.

## V.

2 *the voice of my cry*—i. e. my loudly supplicating voice.

3 *Every morning*—Heb. *in the morning.*

— *prepare*—The word in the original is that used in the law of Moses for setting in order the shew-bread, lamps, fire upon the altar &c.

— *for Thy service*—Heb. *for Thee.*

3 *watch*—probably for some sign of the divine favour and acceptance.

- 4 For Thou art not a God delighting in wickedness,  
A wicked man doth not sojourn with Thee.
- 5 Presumptuous men stand not before Thine eyes,  
Thou hatest all the workers of iniquity.
- 6 Thou destroyest those, who speak lies;  
JEHOVAH abhorreth the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
- 7 But as for me, through Thine abundant mercy  
I enter Thy House;  
I bow down at Thy holy Temple,  
In reverential fear of Thee.
- 8 JEHOVAH! guide me, for Thy righteousness' sake;  
Because of those who watch me,  
Make plain Thy path before me.
- 9 For there is no truth in their mouth,  
All within them is mischief;  
Their throat is an opened sepulchre,  
With their tongue they speak smoothly.

4 *art not a God delighting in*—i. e. art a God detesting. Thus "will not hold him guiltless" (Exod. xx. 7.) means "will hold him very guilty," and "it shall not be well with the wicked." Eccles. viii. 13. signifies that the wicked shall be most severely punished. This mode of expression occurs frequently. Compare Ps. cxix. 85. Note 2.

— *sojourn*—Compare Ps. xv. 1.

5 *stand not*—i. e. they cannot present themselves in Thy temple with the hope of being accepted. Compare Ps. i. 5. Ps. xxiv. 3. and Ps. xxvi. 6.

— *workers of*—those who habitually commit.

6 *speak lies*—Compare Ps. xv. 4. and Ps. xxiv. 4.

7 *But as for me*—The Psalmist now contrasts himself with the several

classes of habitual transgressors above described, yet conscious of frailty and sin (see Ps. cxliii. 2.) he places his reliance solely upon the mercy of God.

7 *I enter*—i. e. I am wont to enter.

8 *watch me*—i. e. watch my steps, ready to take advantage of me if I should stumble or fall. "All my familiars watched for my halting, saying, Peradventure he will be enticed, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him." Jer. xx. 10. Compare Ps. xxvii. 11. Ps. xxxv. 15. Ps. lvi. 6.

— *Thy path*—i. e. the path which Thou hast appointed for me. See Ps. xxxii. 8.

9 *All within &c.*—Heb. *Their inward part* (is) *mischief*s.

— *Their throat &c.*—i. e. The words, to which they give utterance, lead to sure destruction. The sepul-

- 10 O God! deal with them, as guilty,  
 Let them fail in their designs;  
 For their many transgressions cast them out,  
 Because they have rebelled against Thee.
- 11 But let all, who take refuge with Thee, rejoice,  
 Let them ever shout for joy, because Thou protectest them;  
 Yea, let those, who love Thy Name, exult in Thee.
- 12 Because Thou, JEHOVAH! dost bless the righteous,  
 And encompass him with Thy favour, as with a shield.

*Thou art  
 our God  
 Thy name is  
 praised*

## PSALM VI.

- 1 JEHOVAH! rebuke me not in Thine anger,  
 Chastise me not in the heat of Thy wrath.
- 2 Be gracious unto me, JEHOVAH! for I am weak;  
 Heal me, JEHOVAH! for my bones tremble,  
 3 My spirit also is greatly agitated.

But Thou, JEHOVAH!—how long—?

- 4 Turn, JEHOVAH! rescue my life,  
 Save me according to Thy mercy.

chre, actually opened for the purpose of receiving its tenant, does not indicate that death has taken place more clearly than the opening of the mouth of the wicked indicates mischief and perdition. The same image is employed by Jeremiah v. 16. "Their quiver is as an open (opened) sepulchre," where the Prophet represents that the opening of this quiver, to take from it an arrow, is an act as intimately and certainly connected with death, as is the preparing and opening of the grave for the admission of the dead.

10 *deal &c.*—See Ps. Lxix. 27.

10 *fail in*—Heb. *fall from*.  
 — *cast them out*—i. e. banish them from Thy presence.

## VI.

1 *chastise &c.*—The awful effects of the chastisement which the Psalmist here deprecates are enlarged upon Ezek. v. 15, 16, 17.

2 *my bones*—i. e. my entire frame.  
 — *tremble*—Heb. *are agitated*.

3 *how long*—i. e. how long wilt Thou continue to turn away Thy face?

4 *Turn &c.*—Thy face towards me. Compare Ps. Lxxx. 14.



- 5 For in death there is no remembrance of Thee;  
In the regions of the departed, who shall celebrate Thy praise?
- 6 I am wearied with my groaning;  
Every night do I deluge my pillow—  
Do I water my couch with my tears.
- 7 Mine eye wasteth away through vexation,  
It groweth stiff because of all mine enemies.
- 8 Depart from me, all ye workers of iniquity!  
For JEHOVAH hath heard my wailing;  
9 JEHOVAH hath heard my supplication,  
JEHOVAH accepteth my prayer.
- 10 All mine enemies shall be ashamed and greatly confounded,  
They shall go back, they shall, in a moment, be put to shame.

## PSALM VII.

- 1 JEHOVAH, my God! with Thee do I take refuge.  
Save me from all my persecutors and deliver me;  
2 Lest they, like a lion, tear me in pieces,  
While there is no one to rescue, no one to deliver.
- 3 JEHOVAH, my God! if I have done this—  
If there be iniquity in my hands—

5 "For the grave cannot praise thee, death cannot celebrate thee &c.: the living, the living, he shall praise thee, as I do this day &c." Isai. xxxviii. 18, 19. In these and similar passages, occurring in the sacred poetry of the Hebrews, the gloomy mansions of departed spirits are represented as utterly unsuited to the voice of joy and praise. "Life and immortality" had not yet been clearly "brought to light through the Gospel." Compare Ps. xxx. 9. Lxxxviii. 10, 11, 12. cxv. 17. Compare also Eccles. xvii. 27, 28. Baruch ii. 17.

6 *deluge my pillow*—Heb. *cause my bed to swim*.

7 *vexation*—"Mine eye is dim by reason of sorrow." Job xvii. 7. See also Ps. xxxi. 9.

— *stiff*—as it would be in old age.

8 *Depart &c.*—i. e. Desist from your attempts to destroy me, for they are vain.

— *my wailing*—Heb. *my voice of weeping*.

## VII.

3 *this*—with which my persecutors charge me.

5 *in my hands*—i. e. if I have taken any wicked thing in hand.

- 4 If I have rendered evil to him, who was at peace with me—  
Or have stripped mine adversary to utter destitution,  
5 Let mine enemy pursue and overtake me; *and*  
Let him cast me to the ground, and trample upon me alive,  
Yea, let him bring down my glory to dwell in the dust.
- 6 Arise, JEHOVAH! in Thine anger;  
Raise Thyself up against the fury of mine enemies,  
And awake, decree judgment in my favour.
- 7 Let the assembled people compass Thee around,  
And sit Thou on high above them.
- 8 Let JEHOVAH judge the people;  
Give sentence for me, O JEHOVAH!  
According to mine innocence,  
And according to the integrity which is in me.
- 9 Let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end;  
And establish the righteous man;  
For Thou art a searcher of the hearts and reins,  
O righteous God!
- 10 God holdeth a shield before me,  
HE saveth the upright in heart.
- 11 God giveth sentence in favour of the righteous man;  
And God is ever angry with the wicked.

4 *to utter destitution*—so as to expose him to nakedness and extreme want. Compare Job xxxi. 29. and Prov. xxv. 21.

5 *cast me &c.*—Heb. *trample upon my life to the ground*. So, in Ps. lxxxix. 39. "Thou hast profaned his crown to the ground" means "Thou hast cast his crown to the ground and profaned it." The expression in its complete form "he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him" occurs Dan. viii. 7.

5 *bring down &c.*—The construc-

tion of this line is precisely similar to that of the preceding; and in the translation, the same principle is adopted.

5 *my glory*—Compare Ps. lxxxix. 39.

6 *awake &c.*—See Ps. xxxv. 23.  
— *in my favour*—Heb. *unto me*.

9 *hearts and reins*—the most secret recesses of the hearts of men.

10 *holdeth &c.*—Heb. *my shield is upon God*.

11 *And God &c.*—Heb. *And God is angry every day*.

12 If he repent not, He sharpeneth His sword;

HE bendeth His bow, and stringeth it,

13 And fitteth to it the weapons of death;

HE maketh for Himself fiery arrows.

14 Behold, he conceiveth iniquity,

And travaileth with mischief,

And bringeth forth deceit!

15 He diggeth a pit, and holloweth it out,

And tumbleth into the pit-fall, which he maketh.

16 His mischief returneth upon his own head,

And his violence cometh down upon the crown of his head.

I will praise JEHOVAH according to His righteousness,

And I will hymn the Name of JEHOVAH, the Most High.

12 *bendeth*—Heb. *treadeth*—i. e. bendeth with the foot.

— *stringeth it*—Heb. *maketh it fast*. See Ps. xi. 2.

13 *He maketh &c.*—Heb. *He maketh His arrows into fiery ones*.

— *fiery arrows*—i. e. the lightnings.

14 *he*—the wicked man. In this verse is described the progress of his wickedness, and in metaphors similar

to those employed in other places of Scripture. "They conceive mischief, and bring forth vanity, and their belly prepareth deceit." Job. xv. 35. Again, "When lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." Jam. i. 15.

16 *His mischief &c.*—i. e. The mischief which he intended against others recoils upon himself.

## PSALM VIII.

1 O JEHOVAH, our Lord!

How excellent is Thy Name in all the earth!

O Thou, who settest Thy glory above the heavens!

2 Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings,

Dost Thou establish Thy power;

Because of Thine adversaries,

To still the enemy and avenger.

3 When I behold Thy heavens,

The work of Thy fingers—

The moon and the stars,

Which Thou hast established! *or founded & sustained*

4 What is mortal man,

That Thou bearest him in mind!

And what the son of man,

That Thou bestowest upon him Thy regard!

5 Yet Thou hast made him little lower than a god,

And hast crowned him with majesty and honour!

## VIII.

In the early part of this Psalm, allusion appears to be made by the Psalmist not only to the protection and support which he had received when "he hanged yet upon his mother's breasts," but, particularly, to the signal victory obtained by the youthful David over the haughty and insulting champion of the Philistines, and to the consequent delivery of the Israelites (see 1 Sam. xvii.). The Psalmist then passes, from the consideration of individual and national mercies such as these, to some reflections upon the general dealings of Providence towards mankind.

2 *Dost Thou establish Thy power* &c.—Heb. *hast laid the foundation of power out of* &c.

2 *babes and sucklings*—The Psalmist thus describes "weak things of the world" chosen by God to confound "things which were mighty." 1 Cor. i. 27.

— *Because of Thine adversaries*—i. e. in consequence of the taunts of the adversary. "But I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied." 1 Sam. xvii. 45.

3 *established*.—Heb. *founded*.

4 *What*—i. e. How utterly insignificant.

5 *than a god*—This expression refers solely to man's sovereignty over the animal creation. The Psalmist has here obviously paraphrased Gen. i. 26. "Let us make man in our

- 6 THOU hast given him dominion over the works of Thy hands,  
 THOU hast put all creatures under his feet—  
 7 All sheep and oxen,  
 Yea, and the beasts of the field—  
 8 The birds of the air, and the fishes of the sea—  
 Whatsoever passeth through the paths of the ocean!  
 9 O JEHOVAH, our Lord!  
 How glorious is thy Name in all the earth!

## PSALM IX.

- 1 I WILL praise JEHOVAH with my whole heart, *Heb. D*  
 I will recount all Thy marvellous works.  
 2 I will rejoice and exult in Thee,  
 I will hymn Thy Name, O Most High!  
 3 Because mine enemies are turned back—  
 Because they stumble and perish at Thy presence.  
 4 For Thou hast maintained my rightful cause,  
 THOU hast sat upon Thy throne, judging righteously.  
 5 THOU hast rebuked the nations,  
 THOU hast destroyed the wicked,  
 Their name hast Thou blotted out for ever and ever!  
 6 The enemy—they are come to an end!  
 An eternal desolation!  
 Their cities hast Thou uprooted!  
 The very memory of them hath perished!  
 7 But JEHOVAH sitteth enthroned for ever,  
 Firmly establishing his seat for judgment;  
 8 He judgeth the world with righteousness,  
 He decideth the cause of the people with rectitude.

*image, after our likeness, and let them have dominion over &c."*

The author of the Epistle to the Hebrews, following the Septuagint version, reads "than the angels," and applies the passage to the temporary humiliation of the Messiah.

*7 beasts of the field*—i. e. wild beasts.  
 IX.

*3 at Thy presence*—Heb. *from Thy face*.

*7 firmly &c.*—ever ready to administer righteous judgment. Compare Ps. xcvi. 2.

- 9 JEHOVAH is also a tower of refuge for the poor—  
 A tower of refuge in times of trouble.
- 10 Those, who acknowledge Thy Name, put their trust in Thee;  
 For Thou forsakest not those, who seek Thee, O JEHOVAH!
- 11 Hymn ye unto JEHOVAH, who sitteth enthroned in Sion,  
 Declare among the people His doings!
- 12 For, when He searcheth into deeds of blood,  
 HE remembereth the oppressed,  
 HE forgetteth not their distressful cry:
- 13 "Have mercy upon me, O JEHOVAH!  
 "Look on my trouble, and save me from those who hate me,  
 "O Thou, who liftest me up from the gates of death!
- 14 "That I may recount all thy praises,  
 "In the gates of the daughter of Sion—  
 "That I may rejoice in Thy salvation."
- 15 The heathen are sunk into the pitfall, which they had made;  
 In the net, which they had hidden, is their own foot taken.
- 16 JEHOVAH is made known! HE hath executed judgment!  
 HE ensnareth the wicked in the work of their own hands!
- 17 The wicked are turned into the regions of the dead—  
 All the nations who forget God!
- 18 For the poor will not always be forgotten,  
 The expectation of the oppressed faileth not for ever:
- 19 "Arise, O JEHOVAH! let not mortal man prevail;  
 "Let the heathen be judged in Thy presence.

10 *Thou forsakest not*—i. e. Thou especially protectest. Compare Ps. v. 4. Note 1.

12 *deeds of blood*—"And surely your blood of your lives will I require; at the hand of every beast will I require it, and at the hand of man; at the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man." Gen. ix. 5.

13 *Look on* &c.—Heb. *Look on*

*mine oppression from those who hate me.* See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

13 *Have mercy* &c.—The Psalmist here introduces the cry of the distressed referred to in the preceding verse.

14 *gates*—places of public resort.

16 *He ensnareth* &c.—So Job v. 13. "He taketh the wise in their own craftiness." Compare 1 Cor. iii. 19.

19 *Arise* &c.—(when they say) *Arise* &c.

20 "Lay upon them a dread, O JEHOVAH!

"Let the heathen know that they are mortal men."

## PSALM X.

1 WHEREFORE, O JEHOVAH! standest Thou afar off?

Wherefore turnest Thou away Thine eyes, in time of trouble?

2 The wicked man in his pride hotly pursueth the poor,

They are taken in the wiles, which he hath contrived!

3 For the wicked man glorieth

That he hath attained unto his heart's desire;

He congratulateth himself upon his unjust gains;

He holdeth JEHOVAH in contempt!

4 The wicked man, in the haughtiness of his spirit—

All his thoughts are

"HE will never enquire!" "There is no God!"

5 His ways are crooked at all times;

O Thou, who art on high!

THY judgments are not before him.

As for all his enemies he scorneth them.

## X.

1 *turnest Thou away Thine eyes—* in token of displeasure. "Wherefore hidest Thou Thy face, and holdest me for Thine enemy?" Job xiii. 24.

2 *he hath &c.—Heb. they have &c.* The singular number has been adopted in order to avoid ambiguity.

3 *That he hath attained unto—* Heb. upon.

— *He congratulateth &c.—Heb. and making unjust gain blesses (himself), contemns Jehovah.*

4 Compare ver. 13.

5 *His ways &c.—i. e. He is continually declining from the path of rectitude.*

5 *O Thou &c.—Heb. high Thy judgments (are) from before him.*

The meaning is, that the supposed remoteness of God's dwelling place (the heavens) from the earth causes his judgments to be disregarded by the wicked. "Is not God in the height of heaven? And behold the height of the stars, how high they are! and thou sayest, How doth God know? Can He judge through the dark cloud? Thick clouds are a covering to Him, that He seeth not; and He walketh in the circuit of heaven." Job xxii. 12, 13, 14. Opposed to this view is the declaration of the Psalmist. Ps. xviii. 22. cxliii. 5, 6.

— *scorneth—Heb. puffeth at.*

- 6 He saith in his heart:  
 "I shall not be moved"—  
 "For ages to come, I shall not be in adversity!"
- 7 His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and wrong,  
 Under his tongue are mischief and iniquity.
- 8 He coucheth in ambush, near the folds,  
 In his hiding places doth he murder the innocent;  
 His eyes watch for the helpless.
- 9 He lieth in wait in his hiding place, like a lion,  
 In his covert he lieth in wait, to prey upon the afflicted.  
 He preyeth upon the afflicted,  
 When he hath drawn them into his net.
- 10 He croucheth, he stoopeth down,  
 And the helpless fall into his toils.
- 11 He saith in his heart: "God hath forgotten!"  
 "He hath hidden His face!" "He will never see!"
- 12 Arise, JEHOVAH! O God, lift up Thy hand!  
 Forget not the afflicted!
- 13 Wherefore doth the wicked man hold God in contempt?  
 Wherefore saith he in his heart: "Thou wilt not enquire?"
- 14 Thou dost see, for Thou beholdest mischief and oppression;  
 To note them upon Thy hand.  
 The helpless leaveth his cause with Thee;  
 Thou art the helper of the orphan.
- 15 Break Thou the arm of the wicked man, and crush him.  
 "Thou shalt search for the wicked, and shalt not find him."

7 under his tongue—A metaphor taken from a venomous serpent. Compare Ps. cxi. 3.

8 He coucheth &c.—as a wild beast.  
 —folds—i. e. inclosures for cattle, to which wild beasts would approach in search of their prey.

10 croucheth—as a fowler that he may not be observed.

15 Wherefore doth &c.—Why is

the wicked man permitted to do so with impunity?

13 Wherefore saith &c.—Why is he suffered, through Thy forbearance, to entertain this persuasion?

14 To note &c.—Heb. To give upon Thy hand. "Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands." Isai. xlix. 16.

15 Thou shalt &c.—This is the an-



- 16 **JEHOVAH** is King for ever and ever;  
 The heathen perish out of His land!
- 17 **THOU, JEHOVAH!** hearest the desire of the afflicted,  
 Thou confirmest their heart, Thou inclinest Thine ear:  
 18 **THOU** givest sentence for the orphan and the poor.  
 No more shall mortal man affright them from the land!

## PSALM XI.

- 1 **WITH JEHOVAH** do I take refuge.  
 Wherefore say ye unto me:  
 "Flee to the mountains, like a bird."  
 2 "For behold, the wicked bend their bow,  
 They string it, their arrow is upon the string,  
 To shoot in secret at the upright of heart.  
 3 "When the foundations are overthrown,  
 "What can the righteous man do?"
- 4 **JEHOVAH** is in His holy palace;  
**JEHOVAH** is in heaven, His throne.  
 His eyes behold—  
 His eye-lids prove the children of men.  
 5 **JEHOVAH** proveth the righteous and the wicked,  
 And He hateth the lover of violence.

swer to the prayer in the preceding line. It implies the total destruction of the wicked. "Thou shalt seek them, and shalt not find them, even them that contend with thee." Isai. xli. 12.

- 17 *Thine ear*—to their cry.  
 18 *man*—as opposed to God. See Ps. ix. 19.  
 — *from the land* — Compare Ps. xxxvii. 3. 11.

## XI.

- 2 *bend &c.*—Compare Ps. vii. 12.  
 — *in secret*—Heb. in darkness.

3 *the foundations*—i. e. the principles of right and equity. Compare Ps. lxxv. 3. and Ps. lxxxiii. 5.

— *What can &c.*—What remains for you but flight, which we, your friends, now recommend as offering you the only prospect of safety?

4 *His throne*—"Thus saith the Lord, *The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool.*" Isai. lxvi. 1.

— *His eyes &c.*—Even from the height of heaven, He notices all that passes upon the earth below. See Ps. cxlii. 5, 6.

- 6 HE will rain lightnings upon the wicked;  
 Fire and brimstone and a burning wind are their allotted cup.  
 7 For righteous is JEHOVAH, He loveth righteous deeds;  
 HE looketh with favour upon the upright.

## PSALM XII.

- 1 SAVE me, JEHOVAH! for good men are coming to an end—  
 For the faithful are failing from among the children of men.  
 2 They speak falsehood one to another;  
 With a smooth lip, with a double heart do they speak.  
 3 JEHOVAH will destroy all smooth lips—  
 The tongue which speaketh haughtily—  
 4 The men who say: "By our tongues we shall prevail!"  
 "Our lips are our own!" "Who is Lord over us?"  
 5 "Because of the desolation of the afflicted—  
 "Because of the groaning of the poor,  
 "Now will I arise," saith JEHOVAH,  
 "I will place in safety those, who are treated with scorn."  
 6 The words of JEHOVAH are pure words,  
 As silver refined in a furnace of earth,  
 Purified many times.  
 7 THOU, JEHOVAH! wilt preserve them;  
 THOU wilt keep them from this generation for ever.

6 *their allotted cup*—Heb. *the allotment of their cup*. The expression has reference to the custom of distributing to each guest his mess of meat.

7 *He looketh with favour upon*—Heb. *His countenance regardeth*. Compare Ps. xvii. 2.

## XII.

2 *They*—the children of men.  
 — *one to another*—Heb. *a man to his neighbour*.  
 — *with a double heart*—Heb. *with heart and heart*.

3 Two classes of men are referred

to: (1) the dissembler, (2) the self-confident boaster.

3 *haughtily*—Heb. *great things*.

6 *The words &c.*—This refers to God's promise as stated in the preceding verse.

— *many times*—Heb. *seven times*.  
 "Then will I also walk contrary unto you, and will punish you yet *seven times* for your sins." Lev. xxvi. 24.

7 *them* (1)—the poor and afflicted ver. 5.

— *them* (2)—Heb. *each of them*.

— *this generation*—see ver. 3. Note.

- 8 The wicked stalk about on every side,  
When the vilest of the sons of men are exalted.

## PSALM XIII.

- 1 HOW long, JEHOVAH! wilt Thou forget me?—for ever?  
How long wilt Thou hide Thy face from me?  
2 How long shall I take counsel in my mind?  
How long shall I have sorrow daily at my heart?  
How long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?  
3 Look upon me, answer me, O JEHOVAH, my God!  
Enlighten mine eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death—  
4 Lest mine enemy say: "I have prevailed over him"—  
Lest mine adversaries rejoice, because I am moved,  
5 Even I, who trust in Thy mercy!

My heart rejoiceth in Thy salvation.  
I will sing unto JEHOVAH,  
Because He hath dealt graciously by me.

## PSALM XIV.

- 1 THE impious say in their heart: "There is no God."  
They are corrupt and abominable in their doings;  
There is not one, who acteth rightly.

8 "When righteous men do rejoice, there is great glory: but *when the wicked rise, a man is hidden.*"  
Prov. xxviii. 12.

## XIII.

2 take counsel &c.—i. e. have occasion to deliberate how I may escape from my present miseries.

3 enlighten mine eyes—i. e. recruit my strength. "He (Jonathan) put

forth the end of the rod that was in his hand, and dipped it in an honey-comb, and put his hand to his mouth; and *his eyes were enlightened.*"  
1 Sam. xiv. 27.

5 Even I, who &c.—Heb. *And as for me, I &c.*

## XIV.

1 impious—Heb. *fool*. Folly is a term employed in Hebrew to signify the greatest possible degree of guilt.

2 JEHOVAH looketh down from heaven

Upon the children of men,

To see if there be any, who behave wisely—

Who seek after God.

3 All are gone aside together; they are deeply corrupted!

There is not one, who acteth rightly; there is not even one!

4 Will not all the workers of iniquity be punished,

Who devour my people as their food—

Who call not upon JEHOVAH?

5 Then shall they be greatly afraid,

Because God is in the habitation of the righteous.

6 Will ye frustrate the counsel of the poor, *which humble or*

Although JEHOVAH is his refuge?

7 O that from out of Sion

Salvation might come unto Israel!

When JEHOVAH shall bring back His captive people,

Jacob shall rejoice—Israel shall be glad!

3 *deeply corrupted*—Heb. *become putrid*.

4 *Will not &c.?*—This in Hebrew is the strongest mode of asserting that such will be the case.

— *be punished*—Heb. *know or experience* (punishment).

— *as*—Heb. (as) *they devour*.

5 *Then &c.*—i. e. When the threat contained in the preceding verse is accomplished, they (the workers of iniquity) shall feel the greatest terror and dismay.

5 *God is in &c.*—i. e. God will be present to help His oppressed people. See ver. 4.

6 *frustrate*—Heb. *put to shame*.

7 *O that &c.*—Heb. *Who will give &c.*

— *Sion*—which was peculiarly the place of God's residence upon earth.

— *His captive people*—Heb. *the captivity of His people*. See Ps. l.iii. 6. Note 3.

## PSALM XV.

- 1 JEHOVAH! who may sojourn in Thy tabernacle?  
Who may dwell upon Thy holy mountain?
- 2 He, who walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness,  
And speaketh the truth from his heart;
- 3 Who slandereth not with his tongue,  
Who doeth no evil to another,  
Nor uttereth calumnies against his neighbour;
- 4 In whose eyes the vile person is contemned,  
But who honoureth those, that reverence JEHOVAH;  
Who sweareth unto another, and changeth not,
- 5 Who giveth not his money upon usury,  
Nor accepteth a bribe against the innocent.

He, who doeth these things, shall never be moved.

## PSALM XVI.

- 1 PRESERVE me, O God! for with Thee do I take refuge.
- 2 I say unto JEHOVAH: "Thou art my Lord,  
All my happiness resteth upon Thee."
- 3 As for the divinities which are upon the earth—  
As for them, and as for the mighty ones,  
All who take delight in them—
- 4 Who multiply their idols—who hasten after them,  
I will not pour out their drink-offerings of blood,

## XV.

- 1 *who may &c.*—i. e. who may hope for acceptance as a worshipper of Jehovah? Compare Ps. xxiv. 3.
- 2 *walketh*—See Ps. i. 1. Note.
- *worketh*—See Ps. v. 5. Note 2.
- *from*—Heb. *in*.
- 3 *another*—Heb. *his fellow*.

## XVI.

- 3 *divinities*—i. e. idols.  
— *upon the earth*—opposed to the true God, 'who is "in heaven."' See Ps. lxxiii. 25. and Ps. cxv. 3, 4.
- 4 *hasten after them*—i. e. eagerly pursue idolatry.
- *I will not &c.*—i. e. I will never

Nor will I utter their names with my lips.

5 JEHOVAH is mine allotted portion and my cup!

Thou upholdest my lot;

6 A portion is fallen to me in a very pleasant place;

Truly, mine is a goodly heritage.

7 I bless JEHOVAH, who giveth me counsel;

Yea, in the night do my reins correct me.

8 I place JEHOVAH always before me;

Because He is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my mind rejoiceth,

My body also resteth in confidence.

10 For Thou wilt not abandon me to the grave;

Thou wilt not suffer Thy holy one to see corruption;

join in such libations as these idolaters offer.

4 *utter their names &c.*—Heb. *take their names upon my lips*—i. e. invoke these false gods.

5 *allotted &c.*—Compare Ps. xi. 6. Note.

— *portion*—The sacred writers frequently contrast the privileged condition of those who rely upon the promises of Jehovah, with the unhappy lot of those who are without this ground of confidence. See Ps. cxix. 57. "The Lord is *my portion*, saith my soul, therefore will I hope in Him." Lam. iii. 24.

— *upholdest &c.*—i. e. maintainest me in the possession of what Thy Providence has assigned to me.

6 *a portion*—Heb. *measuring lines*. Cords were used to parcel out lands, and hence they came to signify the lands so measured out.

7 *reins*—See Ps. vii. 9. Note 2. The Psalmist observes that reflection in the stillness of the night, the ordinary season of repose, tends, by the

suggestions of God's Holy Spirit, to rectify his conduct.

8 *always &c.*—i. e. I constantly consider myself as in the immediate presence of God.

— *at my right hand*—This seems equivalent to "by my side." Compare Ps. cx. 5, with ver. 1. of the same Psalm.

9 *Therefore my heart is &c.*—Compare Ps. xxx. 3. This and the remaining verses, taken literally, are applicable to David, and agree with the earlier part of the Psalm. They express his conviction that his life will not be given up to the fury of his deadly enemies, and describe the great comfort which he derives from Jehovah's favour. Guided by the Holy Spirit, the Psalmist on this occasion employs a language which equally applies to the triumph of the Messiah over the grave. See Acts ii. 25—31. xiii. 35—37.

— *my body*—Heb. *my flesh*.

— *resteth in confidence*—Heb. *dwelleth securely*.

- 11 THOU wilt show me the path of life.

With Thee is fulness of joy;  
At Thy right hand are pleasures for evermore.

## PSALM XVII.

- 1 HEAR, O JEHOVAH! my just cause,

Attend unto my cry.

Give ear unto my prayer,

Which proceedeth from no deceitful lips.

- 2 Let sentence in my favour go forth from Thy presence,

Let Thine eyes regard rectitude.

- 3 THOU hast searched my heart, THOU hast visited me by night;

THOU hast tried me, THOU findest no wicked device in me.

- 4 My mouth transgresseth not,

In compliance with the doings of men;

According to Thy command,

I take heed of the ways of the violent.

- 5 Support THOU my steps in Thy paths,

Let not my feet be moved.

- 6 I call upon Thee, O GOD! for THOU art wont to answer me;

Incline Thine ear unto me, hear my words.

- 7 Display wonderfully Thy mercies,

11 *the path of life*—This, in its primary signification, refers to the blessings of a long and happy life. See v. 6.

## XVII.

1 *my just cause*—Heb. *righteousness*.

3 *visited me by night*—inspected my conduct when I was least prepared for it; and when, if ever, a man would act wickedly, considering himself at such season least liable to detection.

The following verse shews that the Psalmist here particularly disclaims any participation in the practices of midnight spoilers, of those who "*dig through* houses which they had marked for themselves in the day-time." Job xxiv. 16.

4 *in compliance with*—Heb. *to*.  
— *according to Thy command*—Heb. *by the word of Thy lips*.

— *take heed*—so as to avoid them.  
— *violent*—Heb. *breaker through*.

- THOU Saviour of such as take refuge with Thee,  
 From those, who set themselves up against Thy right hand.  
 8 Guard me as the pupil of Thine eye,  
 Hide me under the shadow of Thy wings;  
 9 From the wicked, who would destroy me—  
 From my deadly enemies, who encompass me.  
 10 They have inclosed themselves in their fat,  
 With their mouth they speak haughtily.  
 11 Even now they surround us in our steps,  
 They fix their eyes down upon the ground.  
 12 They are like a lion, eager to tear in pieces,  
 Even like a young lion, couching in his hiding places.  
 13 Arise, JEHOVAH! confront them, lay them low;  
 Deliver me from the wicked, who are Thy sword—  
 14 From the men, who are instruments in Thy hand, O JEHOVAH!—  
 From worldly men, whose portion is in their life,  
 And whose bellies Thou fillest with Thy treasured ones,

7 *against Thy right hand*—against one protected by Thy right hand.

8 *of Thine eye*—Heb. *the daughter of an eye*. Allusion is here made to the extreme care requisite for the preservation of so delicate an organ as the eye. Compare Prov. vii. 2.

— *wings*—The image is here taken from the protection given by a mother bird to its young. See Ps. xci. 4. "How often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hengereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" Matt. xxiii. 37.

9 *my deadly enemies*—Heb. *my enemies against (my) life*.

10 *fat*—The sacred writers employ this term to signify a body pampered to excess by luxury and self-indulgence. See Ps. lxxiii. 7. and Ps. cxix. 70. "He covereth his face with his fatness." Job xv. 27.

11 *in our steps*—i. e. in our path.  
 — *down*—Heb. *so as to decline*.

12 *They are like*—Heb. *The likeness of him* (that is of each of them) (is) as.

— *young lion*—The word thus translated signifies a lion in the vigour of youth and fully capable of pursuing his prey.

14 *who are instruments in Thy hand*—Heb. *of Thy hand*.

— *Thou fillest*—Compare Ps. xiv. 4.  
 — *whose portion &c.*—i. e. who place their whole reliance and comfort in the good things which they are enjoying, and not in the favour of Jehovah. Compare Ps. iv. 6, 7, 8.

— *treasured ones*—hidden and preserved like a treasure, meaning those who had been especially protected by God as dear to Him. Compare Ps. lxxxiii. 3.



Whose children are fed to the full with them,  
And who leave what remains of them to their little ones.

15 As for me, through righteousness I see Thy face;  
I am fed to the full, when I awake, with beholding Thee.

## PSALM XVIII.

1 I LOVE Thee, O JEHOVAH, my strength!  
2 JEHOVAH is my strong hold, my fortress, and deliverer,  
My God, my rock, He with whom I take refuge; <sup>١٤</sup>  
My shield and my horn of salvation, my tower!  
3 I call upon JEHOVAH, who is worthy to be praised!  
And I am saved from mine enemies!  
  
4 The snares of death hemmed me in,  
And the floods of ungodliness made me greatly afraid.  
5 The snares of Hades encompassed me;  
The toils of death confronted me.  
6 In my strait, I called upon JEHOVAH,  
And I cried aloud unto my God.

11 *their little ones*—Thus the wicked even to the third generation are fed upon the spoils of God's peculiar people. See Ps. xiv. 4. Ps. xlv. 10, 11, 12.

15 *As for me &c.*—David here contrasts with the condition of those persons who are devoted to the world, the lofty privileges which he himself enjoys in the protection and support of Jehovah.

— *through righteousness*—Compare Ps. xv. Ps. xxvi. 6.

— *Thy face*—Compare Ps. xxiv. 6, 7. Ps. xxvii. 4. Ps. xli. 12. Ps. xlii. 2. 4. Ps. xliii. 4. Ps. xc. 6.

— *fed to the full*—Compare Ps. lxxv. 4.

— *when I awake*—and, as is my daily practice offer up my morning

devotions. Compare Ps. v. 3. Ps. lvii. 8. 1 Chron. xxiii. 30.

15 *with beholding Thee*—Heb. *with Thy likeness*, i. e. with the symbols of Thine immediate presence.

## XVIII.

2 *my rock*—Rocks, as being easily defensible, are spoken of as places of safety to which persons would resort as to fortresses constructed by art.

— *my horn*—The more powerful animals exerting their strength principally by the use of their horns, the horn even from the earliest times has been the emblem of might.

3 *I call*—i. e. I am wont to call.

5 *Hades*—the place of the dead. This is here personified and represented as a hunter.

HE heard my voice from His palace;  
And my cry was present unto Him;  
It entered into His ears.

7 Then the earth shook and trembled,  
And the foundations of the mountains tottered,  
Yea, they rocked, because He was wroth.

8 Smoke went up through His nostrils,  
And devouring fire issued out of His mouth.  
Burning coals came flaming from Him.

9 HE bowed the heavens, and came down,  
And thick darkness was under His feet.

10 HE rode upon the Cherubim, and did fly,  
And He soared upon the wings of the wind.

11 HE shrouded Himself in darkness;  
The dark waters, clouds heaped upon clouds,  
Were His pavilion round about Him.

12 At the brightness before Him,  
His clouds passed away.  
There were hailstones and coals of fire!

13 JEHOVAH thundered in the heavens,  
And the Most High uttered His voice.  
There were hailstones and coals of fire!

14 HE sent forth His arrows and scattered them,  
He hurled His lightnings and discomfited them;

15 The channels of the waters were seen,  
The foundations of the world were laid bare,

6 *his palace*—i. e. heaven. Compare ver. 9. and Ps. xi. 4.

8 *Smoke &c.*—Heat is used figuratively to express anger; hence fire and smoke have also been employed for the same purpose, and these latter are here described as issuing from the mouth and nostrils, to indicate an intense degree of that feeling.

— *Burning coals*—i. e. lightnings.

9 *bowed*—i. e. caused to stoop.

— *thick darkness*—caused by the descending clouds.

10 *the Cherubim*—God appears enthroned upon the same awful seat which He occupied in His earthly residence, the tabernacle, and afterwards the temple.

— *wings of the wind*—The Psalmist represents the wind as supplying the place of wings to the Almighty.

11 *the dark waters*—i. e. the waters above the firmament. See Ps. civ. 3.

14 *them*—i. e. mine enemies. See ver. 17.

At Thy rebuke, O JEHOVAH!—

At the blast of the breath of Thy nostrils.

- 16 HE put forth His hand from on high, He took hold on me;  
HE drew me out of mighty waters.
- 17 HE delivered me from my powerful enemies—  
From those who hated me, when they were too strong for me.
- 18 They confronted me in the day of my calamity,  
But JEHOVAH became my support.
- 19 HE brought me forth into a wide place;  
HE rescued me, because He regarded me with favour.
- 20 JEHOVAH hath repaid me, according to mine innocency;  
According to the cleanness of my hands, hath He rewarded me.
- 21 Because I have kept the ways of JEHOVAH,  
And have not wickedly departed from my God;
- 22 Because all His judgments have been before me,  
And I have not removed His statutes from me.
- 23 Yea, because I have been upright before Him,  
And have kept myself from iniquity;
- 24 Therefore JEHOVAH hath rewarded me,  
According to mine innocency,  
According to the cleanness of my hands in His sight.
- 25 To the good man, Thou showest Thyself merciful;  
To the man of integrity, Thou showest Thyself perfect;
- 26 To the pure, Thou showest Thyself pure;  
But to the froward, Thou appearest perverse.
- 27 For it is Thou, who savest the afflicted,  
But humblest the eyes of the haughty;

22 *before me*—Compare Ps. x. 5. and Note 2.

23 *from iniquity*—Heb. *from my iniquity*—i.e. from iniquity on my part. The words of the translation appear to give the full sense of the Hebrew. Compare Ps. xxvi. 1.

27 *in His sight*—Heb. *before His eyes*.

26 *perverse*—Heb. *toruous*. “Ye say, The way of the Lord is not equal.” Ezek. xxviii. 25.

27 *the afflicted*—Heb. *the afflicted people*.

— *the eyes of the haughty*—Heb. *haughty eyes*. The meaning obviously is that the haughty themselves

28 For it is Thou, who lightest my lamp, O JEHOVAH!

My God doth enlighten my darkness!

29 For by Thee do I burst through armed bands,

Yea, through my God do I leap over fenced walls. 24

30 As for God, perfect is His way! 134

The word of JEHOVAH is tried;

He is a shield unto all, who take refuge with Him. 447

31 For who is a God, save JEHOVAH?

Or who is a rock, beside our God?—

32 The God, who girdeth me with might, 134, 135, 447

And maketh certain my path? 134, 135

33 He maketh my feet swift as the hinds',

And enableth me to make a stand upon my high places.

34 He traineth my hands for the battle,

So that mine arms bend a bow of brass.

35 Thou also givest me the shield of Thy salvation,

And Thy right hand sustaineth me;

Even Thine afflicting hand tendeth to make me great.

shall be humbled, however confident they may be.

28 *lightest my lamp*—i. e. sustaineth me in prosperity. See Prov. xiii. 9.

29 *by Thee*—i. e. by Thine assistance.

— *fenced walls*—of cities besieged by me.

30 *tried*—The promise of the Lord, when tried, stands the test, as metal proved in the furnace. Compare Ps. xii. 6.

32 *certain*—Heb. *perfect*.

33 *swift*—Heb. *equal*. This line refers to David's swiftness in pursuing his enemies as the following does to his valour in resisting their attacks. "—men of might and men of war, fit for the battle, &c. whose faces were like the faces of lions, and

were as *swift as the roes* upon the mountains." 1 Chron. xii. 8. "they were *swifter than eagles*, they were stronger than lions." 2 Sam. i. 23.

33 *high places*—places made choice of as most easily defensible.

34 *traineth*—Heb. *teacheth*.

— *bend*—Heb. *make to descend*. The term seems to apply particularly to the stringing of the bow, which is often alluded to as requiring address and strength. See Ps. vii. 12.

— *a bow of brass*—i. e. a bow as inflexible as though made of brass. The same hyperbole is used Mic. iv. 13.

35 *the shield &c.*—God interposes as a shield to save David.

— *afflicting hand*—Heb. *affliction*. — *make me great*—Past afflictions and trials, as well as past deliverances, have tended, by raising my

- 36 Thou givest me ample space on which to tread,  
And mine ankles do not falter.
- 37 I pursue mine enemies, and overtake them;  
Nor do I turn back, until I have made an end of them.
- 38 I smite them, so that they cannot stand;  
They fall under my feet.
- 39 Thou girdest me with might for the battle;  
Thou layest low beneath me those, who rise up against me.
- 40 Thou makest mine enemies to turn their backs unto me;  
As for those who hate me, I destroy them.
- 41 They cry aloud, but there is no one to save—  
Unto JEHOVAH, but He answereth them not.
- 42 I beat them to powder, like dust before the wind,  
I trample them down, like the mire of the streets.
- 43 Thou deliverest me from the strivings of the people,  
Thou dost make me head of the nations;  
A people, whom I know not, become subject to me.
- 44 As soon as their ear hath heard, they attend unto me;  
The sons of the alien make a show of submission to me.
- 45 The sons of the alien shrink with fear,  
And come out of their strong holds.
- 46 JEHOVAH liveth! and blessed be my Rock,  
And exalted be the God of my salvation!
- 47 The God, who avengeth my cause,  
And subdueth the people under me!

character, to qualify me for receiving increase of temporal prosperity. See Ps. cxix. 67, 71. Thus "that He might *humble* thee, and that He might *prove* thee to do thee good at thy latter end." Deut. viii. 16. And "before honour is *humility*." Prov. xv. 33.

36 *Thou givest &c.*—Heb. *Thou makest wide my step under me.*

37 *pursue*—"David enquired at the Lord, saying, Shall I *pursue* after this troop? shall I *overtake*

them? And He answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and without fail recover all." 1 Sam. xxx. 8. See Ps. vii. 5.

44 *attend*—They listen to the first proposals made for their submission.  
— *the sons of the alien*—i. e. the idolatrous nations.

45 *shrink with fear*—Heb. *with*.  
— *come out*—to surrender themselves.

47 *avengeth my cause*—Heb. *giveth vengeance for me.*

- 48 Who delivereth me from mine enemies!  
 Yea, Thou raisest me above those, who rise up against me;  
 Thou rescuest me from the man of violence!
- 49 Therefore will I praise Thee, O JEHOVAH! among the nations,  
 And will hymn unto Thy Name!
- 50 HE bringeth great salvation to His king,  
 And sheweth mercy to His anointed,  
 To David, and to his seed for ever!

## PSALM XIX.

- 1 THE heavens declare the glory of God,  
 And the firmament proclaimeth the work of His hands.
- 2 Day after day, it poureth forth instruction,  
 And night after night, it pointeth out knowledge.
- 3 They have no speech nor language,  
 They have not an audible voice;
- 4 Yet their lesson goeth forth through all the earth,  
 And their eloquence to the uttermost parts of the world!  
 In them He hath set a pavilion for the sun,

## XIX.

1 *firmament*—“Hast thou with Him spread out the sky, which is strong, and as a molten looking-glass?” Job xxxvii. 18. See Ezek. i. 22. Compare Prov. viii. 28.

2 *it*—i. e. the firmament of the heavens.

— *instruction*—Heb. *speech*.

3 *they*—i. e. the heavens.

4 *yet their lesson*—Heb. *their line*—i. e. yet the instruction which they impart. Their silent eloquence is contrasted with the articulate sounds, mentioned in the preceding verse. “For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; *line upon*

*line, line upon line*; here a little, and there a little.” Isaiah xxviii. 10.

4 *in them*—i. e. in the ends of the heavens where, to ordinary observation, they appear to be united with “the uttermost parts of the world.”

— *pavilion for the sun*—The view here taken by the Psalmist seems to be that the sun, having performed his course, withdraws himself by *entering into* a tent or dwelling, prepared for him by the Creator. In this tent, the sun is represented as sojourning during the night, and from it he *goes forth*, when in the morning he resumes his circuit in the heavens. In verses 5 and 6, as well

- 5 And he is like a bridegroom, going forth from his chamber,  
He rejoiceth, as a strong man, to run his course.
- 6 His going forth is from one end of the heavens,  
And his circuit unto the other end thereof.  
There is nothing hidden from his heat!
- 7 The law of JEHOVAH is perfect, reviving the spirit;  
The testimony of JEHOVAH is sure, making wise the simple.<sup>267</sup>
- 8 The statutes of JEHOVAH are right, rejoicing the heart;  
The precepts of JEHOVAH are clean, giving light unto the eyes.
- 9 The reverence of JEHOVAH is pure, enduring for ever;  
The judgments of JEHOVAH are true, they are all righteous!

the majesty and grandeur of his appearance and progress, as the comprehensive effects of his influence, are beautifully illustrated and described.

5 *bridegroom*—This alludes to the festivities accompanying eastern marriages. The custom was for the bridegroom to come forth at night, for the purpose of meeting the bride, and to appear with a number of attendants bearing lamps (Matt. xxv. 1.). The splendour of his dress, the hilarity of his countenance and the joy diffused through the whole company (John iii. 29.) are also probably referred to.

— *to run his course*—i. e. to bear, as a courier, the message which has been entrusted to him. As such messengers travelled on foot, strength and speed would be the great requisites for them, and they would naturally take pleasure in displaying these qualifications. “—some shall run before his chariots.” 1 Sam. viii. 11. “Then said Ahimaaz the son of Zadok yet again to Joab, But howsoever, let me, I pray thee, also run after Cushai. And Joab said,

Wherefore wilt thou run, my son, seeing that thou hast no tidings ready? But howsoever, said he, Let me run. And he said unto him, Run. Then Ahimaaz ran by the way of the plain, and overran Cushai.” 2 Sam. xviii. 22, 23.

6 *nothing*—i. e. upon the surface of the earth.

7 *testimony*—i. e. revealed will. Probably the “two tables of the testimony,” containing the Decalogue, are here especially referred to.

— *reviving the spirit*—giving the same support to the mind that food does to the body when exhausted. “—they have given their pleasant things for meat to relieve the soul.” Lam. i. 11. See also Ps. xxiii. 3. Prov. xxv. 13.

8 *giving light unto the eyes*—i. e. enlightening the mind. See Ps. cxix. 130. The same expression occurs Ps. xiii. 3, and there signifies “recruiting the strength.”

9 *reverence*—Heb. *fear*.

— *pure*—Compare Ps. xii. 6.

— *enduring for ever*—The blessings flowing from it continue for ever. See Ps. cxi. 10.

- 10 They are more to be desired than gold, yea, much fine gold,  
And sweeter than honey, yea, the dropping of the honey-combs.
- 11 By them, moreover, is Thy servant enlightened;  
In keeping them, there is great reward.
- 12 Who can discern his errors?  
Cleanse me from those, which are hidden from me!
- 13 From wilful transgressions, also, restrain Thy servant,  
Let them not have dominion over me;  
Then shall I be upright,  
And innocent from much sin.
- 14 May the words of my mouth be accepted,  
And the meditation of my heart come before Thee,  
O JEHOVAH! my Rock, and my Redeemer!

## PSALM XX.

- 1 MAY JEHOVAH answer Thee in the day of trouble!  
May the Name of the God of Jacob defend Thee!
- 2 May He send help to Thee from the sanctuary,  
And from Sion support Thee!
- 3 May He be mindful of all Thine offerings,  
And accept Thy burnt sacrifices!
- 4 May He give unto Thee Thy heart's desire,  
And fulfil all Thy designs!
- 5 We will sing of Thy salvation,  
And, in the Name of our God, raise high our banner!
- May JEHOVAH fulfil all Thy petitions!

10 *the dropping of the honey-combs*—that part of the honey which is the best from its flowing freely from the combs without any mixture or sediment.

11 *Thy servant*—meaning the Psalmist himself. See Ps. cxix. 124.

14 *come before Thee*—i. e. be re-

garded by Thee with favour. Compare Ps. xviii. 6.

## XX.

1 *Name*—i. e. power and goodness.

3 *all Thine*—i. e. Thy many.

—*accept &c.*—Heb. *consider as fat.*

4 *Thy heart's desire*—Heb. *according to thy heart.*



6 Now do I know that JEHOVAH saveth His Anointed—  
That He answereth Him from His holy heavens,  
With the saving strength of His right hand.

7 Some glory in chariots, and some, in horses;  
But we glory in the Name of JEHOVAH, our God.

8 These men bow down and fall;  
But we rise up, and stand erect.

9 O JEHOVAH! save the King!  
May He answer us, when we call!

## PSALM XXI.

1 IN Thy strength, JEHOVAH! the King rejoiceth,  
Yea, in Thy salvation how greatly doth He exult!  
2 Thou hast granted unto Him the desire of His heart,  
And hast not withholden the request of His lips.  
3 For Thou hast presented Him with choice blessings,  
Thou hast placed upon His head a crown of pure gold.  
4 He asked life of Thee, Thou hast granted it to Him;  
Even length of days, for ever and ever.  
5 Great is His glory through Thy salvation;  
Thou hast laid upon Him honour and majesty.  
6 Truly, Thou hast made Him most blessed for ever.  
Thou hast gladdened Him with the joy of Thy presence.  
7 Truly, the King trusteth in JEHOVAH,

6 *Now*—The prayer contained in the five preceding verses having been favourably answered, the king, in this and the two following verses, gratefully acknowledges the favour and protection of God. In the ninth verse, the prayer for the king is resumed.

7 *Some*—the persons here referred to were probably vanquished enemies.

## XXI.

1 *the King*—the promised King, the Messiah.

2 *the request*—Compare Ps. ii. 8.

3 *presented Him with choice &c.*—Heb. *goest before Him with good blessings.* Compare Ps. xcv. 2.

4 *for ever and ever*—Compare Ps. lxxii. 5.

5 *honour &c.*—Compare Ps. xlv. 3.

6 *blessed*—Compare Ps. xlv. 2.

And, through the loving-kindness of the Most High,  
HE shall never be moved.

- 8 Thy hand shall reach all Thine enemies;  
Thy right hand shall reach those, who hate Thee.  
9 Thou shalt place them as in a furnace of fire,  
In the time of Thine anger;  
JEHOVAH shall destroy them in His fury,  
And the fire shall devour them.  
10 Thou shalt cause their offspring to perish from the earth,  
And their posterity from among the children of men;  
11 Because they intended evil against Thee—  
They devised mischief, which they could not accomplish.  
12 Truly, Thou shalt place them as a mark;  
Thou shalt fit Thine arrow to the string, and aim at them.  
13 Be Thou exalted, JEHOVAH! in Thy strength;  
So will we sing and hymn Thy might!

### PSALM XXII.

- 1 MY God! My God! why hast Thou forsaken Me?  
Why standest Thou far from Mine aid—from My loud cry?  
2 O My God! I call by day, but Thou dost not answer—  
By night also, and am never silent.  
3 Yet Thou art holy;     | 4  
Thou sittest enthroned, the Praise of Israel!

8 reach—Heb. *find*.

10 offspring—Heb. *fruit*.

— posterity—Heb. *seed*.

11 they could not accomplish—Heb.  
they are not able.

12 Thou shalt &c. — Heb. *Thou shalt fit upon Thy string against their faces*. See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

#### XXII.

This Psalm is prophetic of the sufferings and subsequent exaltation

of the Messiah. Compare Isai. lii. liii.

1 Why standest &c.—Heb. *Far away from my salvation, the words of my roaring*. i. e. Why standest Thou far off, so as neither to help me, nor to hear my cry. Compare Ps. x. 1.

2 am never silent—Heb. *not silence to me*.

3 the Praise &c.—i. e. the sole object of the praises of Thy people.

- 4 In Thee our fathers trusted;  
 They trusted, and Thou didst deliver them.  
 5 Unto Thee they cried, and were rescued;  
 In Thee they trusted, and were not disappointed.  
 6 But I am a worm, and not a man;  
 I am the scorn of men, and the despised of the people.  
 7 All, who see Me, scoff at Me;  
 They open wide their lips, they shake their heads:  
 8 "HE trusted in JEHOVAH, let Him deliver Him—  
 "Let Him rescue Him, for He delighteth in Him!"  
 9 Truly, it was Thou, who didst take Me out of the womb—  
 Who gavest Me security, upon My mother's breasts.  
 10 Upon Thee have I been cast from My birth;  
 From the womb of My mother, Thou hast been My God.  
 11 Be not far from Me;  
 For trouble is near—for there is no helper.  
 12 Many bulls surround Me;  
 Mighty bulls of Bashan compass Me about.  
 13 They open wide their mouths at Me;  
 As a ravenous and roaring lion.  
 14 I am poured out, like water,  
 And all My bones are out of joint.

8 *He trusted*—Heb. *He devolves* (his way). Compare Ps. xxxvii. 5.

10 *cast &c.*—by Thee was I received at my birth, and have been since fostered.

— *From My birth*—Heb. *from the womb*.

12 *bulls*—Under the names of the ferocious beasts mentioned here and in some of the following verses (13, 16,) and repeated (20, 21,) are signified powerful and deadly enemies.

— *Bashan*—a district celebrated (Deut. xxxii. 14. Mic. vii. 14.) for

the richness of its pastures, and the size and ferocity of the cattle fed upon them.

14 *I am poured out, like water*—Allusion is here made to excessive and incessant perspiration occasioned by apprehension and agony of mind. "And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground." Luke xxii. 44.

— *all my bones &c.*—My whole frame is relaxed and become unequal to any kind of exertion.

- My heart is become like wax,  
It is melted within Me.<sup>76</sup>
- 15 My strength is dried up, as an earthen vessel,  
And My tongue cleaveth unto the roof of My mouth;  
Yea, Thou layest Me down in the dust of death.
- 16 Truly, dogs surround Me;  
The assembly of the wicked doth encompass Me;<sup>847</sup>  
They pierce My hands and My feet.
- 17 I can count all My bones.  
As for them, they look,—they gaze upon Me with satisfaction!
- 18 They part My garments among them,  
And for My vesture they cast lots.
- 19 But, JEHOVAH! be not Thou far off,  
O My Strength, hasten to Mine aid!<sup>848</sup>
- 20 Rescue Me from the sword—  
My life from the power of the dogs.
- 21 Save Me from the mouths of the lions;  
Answer, and deliver Me from the horns of the bulls.
- 22 I will declare Thy Name unto My brethren;  
In the midst of the congregation will I praise Thee:

14 *within Me*—Heb. *in the midst of My bowels*.

15 *My strength* &c.—The juices which diffuse strength through my frame are dried up as entirely as the moisture is extracted from the earthen vessel of the potter.

— *roof of My mouth*—Heb. *My jaws*.

— *My tongue* &c.—My mouth is so parched that my tongue no longer moves freely.

— *Thou layest Me down* &c.—Thou, to whom I was at my birth committed, and by whom I have since been fostered, (v. 10) hast deposited me with the dead. Compare Ps. xvi. 10.

17 *them*—i. e. his wicked enemies.

— *they look* &c.—So far from feeling or evincing any compassion for

me, they actually rejoice at my sufferings and calamity.

20 *My life*—Heb. *Mine only one*—i. e. the possession which is most dear, and now alone remains, to me. "And Satan answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yea, *all that a man hath will he give for his life*." Job ii. 4. See Ps. xxxv. 17.

21 *Answer, and deliver Me from* &c.—Heb. *Answer Me from* &c. See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

22 The preceding verses have a particular reference to the indignities offered to the Messiah at the close of his earthly career. In those which follow, his deliverance from death and the power of his enemies is proclaimed, and the consequent extension of God's kingdom prophetically described.

- 23 "Ye worshippers of JEHOVAH! praise Him,  
 "All ye seed of Jacob! glorify Him;  
 "And reverence Him, all ye seed of Israel!
- 24 "For He hath not despised  
 "Nor abhorred the misery of the Afflicted.  
 "He hath not hidden His face from Him;  
 "But when He cried unto Him, He hath heard!
- 25 My praise shall be of Thee, in the great congregation,  
 My vows will I pay before His worshippers.
- 26 The poor shall eat, and they shall be satisfied;  
 Those shall praise JEHOVAH who seek Him:  
 "May your hearts live for ever!"
- 27 All the ends of the earth  
 Shall call this to mind, and shall turn unto JEHOVAH;  
 All the families of the heathen  
 Shall bow down before Thee.
- 28 For the kingdom shall be JEHOVAH's,  
 And He shall rule over the heathen.
- 29 All the rich of the earth shall eat, and shall bow down,  
 Before Him shall all bend low, who are going down to the dust—  
 MYSELF also, whom He hath kept alive!
- 30 My seed shall serve Him;

23 In this and the next verse is contained the public acknowledgment of Jehovah's goodness.

25 *My praise shall be of Thee*—i. e. Thou shalt be the theme of my praise. In this and the three following verses the future worship of Christians is shadowed forth by images taken from the sacrificial feasts of the Mosaic ritual.

26 *The poor shall eat &c.*—See Deut. xvii. 11. 14. and 1 Chro. xxix. 20, 21, 22.

—*May your hearts &c.*—The friendly salutation addressed to those who came to partake of the sacrificial feast.

27 *All the ends &c.*—i. e. The inhabitants of the uttermost parts of the earth.

—*call this to mind*—Heb. *call to mind* (this deliverance of the Messiah from the malice and power of his enemies).

29 *shall eat*—See Note 1. ver. 26.

—*all, who are going down &c.*—i. e. all who are in extreme want and misery and just sinking under their calamities. See Note 1. ver. 26.

—*kept alive*—Heb. *kept alive for Himself*.

30 *My seed &c.*—"he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days."—Isai. liiii. 10.

They shall be the Lord's, through succeeding generations.

- 31 They shall come, and shall proclaim His goodness  
To a people which shall be born, because He hath done this.

### PSALM XXIII.

- 1 JEHOVAH is my shepherd, I am in want of nothing!  
2 He causeth me to lie down in green pastures;  
Unto still waters doth He lead me.  
3 He reviveth my spirit,  
He guideth me into right paths, for His Name's sake.  
4 Even when I walk in the valley of the shadow of death,  
I fear no evil, because Thou art with me!  
Thy staff and Thy support—  
These are my comfort.  
5 Thou dost furnish a table for me,  
In the sight of mine enemies;  
Thou anointest my head with oil,  
My cup is overflowing.  
6 Only goodness and mercy pursue me, all the days of my life;  
And I dwell in the house of JEHOVAH, for a length of years.

30 *They shall be*—Heb. *It* (My seed) *shall be reckoned as*.

31 *come*—i. e. be born into the world. See Eccles. i. 4.

— *which shall be born*—Compare Ps. LXXXVIII. 6.

— *this*—See ver. 27. Note 2.

### XXIII.

2 *to lie down*—i. e. to obtain refreshment.

3 *my spirit*—See Ps. xix. 7. Note 2.

— *right paths*—One persecuted and harassed by his enemies is, in pastoral language, compared to a sheep lost in intricate and winding paths. Thus Jeremiah (Lam. iii. 9.) observes that God had made "*his paths crooked*." Compare also Ps. cxix. 176. On the

other hand, he who is living in peaceful security is said to walk in straight paths.

3 *for His Name's sake*—conformably to His divine attribute of mercy.

4 *in the valley of the shadow of death*—i. e. in regions dark and gloomy as the grave, where I am exposed to continual and extreme danger. See Jer. ii. 6.

5 *In the sight &c.*—so that they are obliged to acknowledge the hand of God to be employed in my preservation. See Ps. Lxiv. 9.

— *Thou anointest &c.*—This was the accompaniment of a splendid banquet.

6 *pursue me*—So far from being pursued by my enemies, the goodness and mercy of God follow me

## PSALM XXIV.

- 1 THE earth is JEHOVAH's and all, which it containeth,  
The world and those, who dwell therein.  
2 For it was He, who founded it above the ocean,  
And established it above the floods.
- 3 Who may ascend the mountain of JEHOVAH?  
And who may stand in His holy place?
- 4 He, whose hands are guiltless, and whose heart is pure!  
He, who hath not pronounced His Name, to confirm a lie,

through life. To understand fully the force of this expression, it will be necessary to refer, in the first place, to Psalm vii. 5, where the Psalmist prays that, if he be indeed guilty of the charge brought against him, his enemies may *pursue* and overtake him, thus representing this to be the greatest calamity which could befall him; and, secondly, to Psalm xviii. 37, where, exulting in the favour of his God, he rejoices in being able, through the divine assistance, to *pursue* and overtake his *enemies*. Compare Prov. xiii. 21.

6 *I dwell &c.*—Released from the toils and hazards of war, I have abundant leisure to attend to the public ordinances of religion.

## XXIV.

This Psalm is a choral hymn, sung upon bringing back the ark of God to Mount Zion after a victory.

1 *The earth &c.*—The assembly of the people is properly reminded, at the opening of this Psalm, that, although Mount Zion is peculiarly the place of God's presence, Jehovah fills the heavens and the earth. "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold,

*the heaven and the heaven of heavens, cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"* 1 Kings viii. 27. "*Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool: what house will ye build me? saith the Lord: or what is the place of my rest? Hath not my hand made all these things?"* Acts vii. 49, 50.

1 *all &c.*—Heb. *its fulness* i. e. all the productions &c. with which it is filled.

2 *above &c.*—The waters, being placed lower than the earth, cannot overflow it. "—any that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth." Exod. xx. 4. See Ps. civ. 9.

3 *Who may ascend &c.*—Who is duly qualified to take a part in any such sacred service as that upon which we are now entering? Compare the description, which follows, with the answer given to a similar question in Ps. xv.

4 *He, whose hands &c.*—Heb. *the guiltless of hands and the pure of heart.*

—*His Name*—Heb. (God) *Himself*. "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the

And hath not sworn deceitfully !  
 5 He shall receive a blessing from JEHOVAH,  
 And mercy from the God of his salvation.  
 6 This is the race, who seek Him—  
 Who seek Thy face, O God of Jacob !

7 Lift up your heads, ye gates !  
 And be ye lifted up, ye ancient doors,  
 That the glorious King may enter !

8 Who is this, "the glorious King" ?

JEHOVAH, strong and mighty ;  
 JEHOVAH, mighty in battle !

9 Lift up your heads, ye gates !  
 And be ye lifted up, ye ancient doors,  
 That the glorious King may enter !

Who is this, "the glorious King" ?

JEHOVAH, God of Hosts—  
 HE is the glorious King !

Lord will not hold him guiltless that  
 taketh *his name* in vain." Exod. xx. 7.  
 "The Lord God hath sworn *by him-  
 self*, saith the Lord the God of hosts,  
 I abhor the excellency of Jacob, and  
 hate his palaces: therefore will I de-  
 liver up the city with all that is  
 therein." Amos vi. 8.

4 *to confirm a lie*—Heb. *to false-  
 hood or falsely*.

— *deceitfully*—without any intention  
 of performing his oath.

6 *of those who seek Him*—i. e. in  
 order to know His will. Without these

qualifications it is utterly vain for  
 men to expect that their prayers and  
 services will be accepted by a holy  
 and righteous God.

7 *Lift up &c.*—i. e. rise more proud-  
 ly—assume an attitude suited to the  
 grandeur of the occasion. The gates,  
 here apostrophised, were probably  
 those of the ancient city upon Mount  
 Zion. See 2 Sam. vi. 12, &c.

8 *mighty in battle*—the presence of  
 the ark having given us victory.

9 *Hosts*—of all created things in  
 heaven and on earth.



## PSALM XXV.

- 1 UNTO Thee, O JEHOVAH! do I lift up my soul;  
 2 My God! in Thee do I place my confidence.

Let me not be disappointed—  
 Let not mine enemies triumph.

- 3 Yea, let not any, who hope in Thee, be disappointed;  
 Let the treacherous, failing in their plans, be disappointed.

- 4 O JEHOVAH! cause me to know Thy ways,  
 Teach me Thy paths!

- 5 Lead me into Thy truth, and teach me;  
 For Thou art the God of my salvation,  
 In Thee do I hope continually.

- 6 Call to mind Thy mercies, JEHOVAH!—  
 Yea, Thy loving-kindnesses; for these have been of old!

- 7 Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions;  
 According to Thy loving-kindness, remember Thou me,  
 For Thy goodness' sake, O JEHOVAH!

- 8 Good and righteous is JEHOVAH,  
 Therefore doth He instruct sinners in the way.

## XXV.

In the original, this Psalm is so constructed that the first portion of it begins with the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, the second portion with the second letter, &c. The xxxivth and xxxvii th Psalms follow a similar law, as also the cxi th, cxii th, cxix th and cxlv th Psalms.

The general character of all these Psalms is didactic, and the object of this artificial arrangement undoubtedly is to afford a means of recalling

them the more easily to mind.

It is worthy of notice that the connexion between consecutive parts of these compositions is sometimes very slight.

In the Psalm immediately before us, there is a departure, in the Hebrew, from the law above stated, but not so great an one, as to affect materially the account of its construction, given in the first paragraph.

*3 failing in their plans &c.—Heb. emptily (of advantage).*

- 9 He leadeth the lowly unto His judgments,  
And teacheth the lowly His way.
- 10 All the paths of JEHOVAH are loving-kindness and truth,  
To those, who keep His covenant and His testimonies.
- 11 For Thy Name's sake, O JEHOVAH!  
Pardon mine iniquity, for it is great!
- 12 Who is the man, that reverenceth JEHOVAH?  
Him will He instruct in the way, which he should choose.
- 13 He himself shall abide in prosperity,  
And his seed shall inherit the land.
- 14 JEHOVAH hath communion with those, who reverence Him,  
And He maketh known unto them His covenant.
- 15 Mine eyes are continually upon JEHOVAH;  
Because He taketh my feet out of the net.
- 16 Look upon me, and be gracious unto me;  
For I am solitary and afflicted.
- 17 Relieve Thou the distresses of my heart,  
And deliver me out of my troubles.
- 18 Behold mine affliction and my sorrow,  
And pardon all my sins.
- 9 unto His judgments—i. e. unto the knowledge of His statutes.  
10 testimonies—i. e. revealed will.  
11 For Thy Name's sake—See Ps. xxiii. 3. Note 2.  
—for &c.—Because my iniquity admits not of extenuation or excuse, I urge as my only plea for forgiveness Thy known attribute of mercy.  
14 communion—by which they are taught His will.  
15 Mine eyes—Compare Ps. cxxiii. 2. and Note.  
17 relieve Thou the distresses—Heb. enlarge Thou the straits.  
18 all my sins—i. e. my many sins.

- 19 Behold mine enemies, for they are many;  
And with a fierce hatred, do they hate me.
- 20 Guard my life, and rescue me;  
Let me not be disappointed,  
For I have taken refuge with Thee.
- 21 Let mine integrity and uprightness preserve me,  
Because I have hoped in Thee.
- 22 Deliver Israel, O God! out of all his distresses!

## PSALM XXVI.

- 1 GIVE sentence for me, JEHOVAH!  
For I walk in integrity.  
Yea, in JEHOVAH put I my confidence;  
I do not falter.
- 2 Examine me, JEHOVAH! and try me;  
Prove my reins and my heart.
- 3 For Thy loving-kindness is before mine eyes,  
And I walk by Thy truth.
- 4 I sit not with lying persons,  
Nor have I fellowship with dissemblers.
- 5 I hate the assembly of evil-doers,  
And do not sit with the wicked.

## XXVI.

- 1 Give sentence &c.—Compare Ps. vii. 8.  
— in integrity—Heb. in mine integrity. Compare Ps. xviii. 23. Note.  
2 my reins and my heart—See Ps. vii. 9.  
3 before mine eyes—in my thoughts continually. See Ps. xvi. 8. Li. 3.

3 walk &c.—My faith in the truth of Thy promises has entirely regulated the course of my life.

4 I sit not &c.—Compare Ps. ci. 7.

— have I fellowship with—Heb. do I enter in with.

5 hate &c.—I show my abhorrence of wickedness by avoiding the company of the wicked.

- 6 I wash my hands in innocency,  
And compass Thine altar, O JEHOVAH!  
7 To cause the voice of praise to be heard,  
And to declare all Thy marvellous acts.  
8 JEHOVAH! I love the house of Thine abode—  
Yea, the place wherein Thy glory dwelleth.  
9 Destroy me not with sinners,  
Nor my life with blood-thirsty men;  
10 In whose hands are machinations,  
And whose right hand is filled with bribes.  
11 But as for me, I walk in integrity;  
Redeem me, and have mercy upon me.  
12 My foot standeth firm, in rectitude;  
In the public assemblies, do I bless JEHOVAH.

## PSALM XXVII.

- 1 JEHOVAH is my light and my salvation,  
Whom shall I fear?  
JEHOVAH is the defence of my life, *the strength*  
Of whom shall I be afraid?  
2 When the wicked advance against me,  
To devour my flesh—  
Even my foes and mine enemies—  
They themselves stumble and fall!

6 *wash &c.*—I bear in mind that, without innocency, all outward ablutions are vain.

8 *Thy glory*—the symbol of the divine presence.

9 *Destroy me not*—Heb. *gather me not*.

— *blood-thirsty*—Heb. *men of blood*.

10 *In whose hands &c.*—i. e. who are constantly plotting against the lives of the upright and stand forward willingly as the suborned accusers of the innocent.

10 *bribes*—Compare Ps. xv. 5.

12 *standeth firm*—Compare ver. 1.

— *in rectitude*—i. e. in the path of rectitude. See Ps. xxvii. 11.

— *In the public &c.*—I regularly frequent the public worship of God. Compare vv. 6, 7.

## XXVII.

2 *to devour &c.*—This image is taken from a wild beast. Compare Ps. iii. 7. and Ps. xxii. 13.

- 3 If a host encamp against me,  
My heart feareth not;  
If battle arise against me,  
Even then am I confident!
- 4 One thing do I ask of JEHOVAH—  
This I earnestly seek—  
That I may dwell in the house of JEHOVAH,  
All the days of my life—  
To look upon the beauty of JEHOVAH,  
And to survey His temple.
- 5 For in His pavilion doth He hide me,  
In the day of calamity;  
He concealeth me in the secret recess of His tent,  
He placeth me high upon a rock.
- 6 And now is my head exalted,  
Above my surrounding enemies;  
Therefore will I offer, in His tabernacle,  
Sacrifices of triumph,  
I will sing, yea, I will hymn unto JEHOVAH!
- 7 Hear my voice, O JEHOVAH! when I call;  
Be gracious unto me, and answer me.
- 8 To Thee saying: "Seek ye My face,"  
My heart answereth: "Thy face, JEHOVAH! do I seek."
- 9 Hide not Thy face from me,  
Turn not Thy servant back in displeasure.  
Thou hast been my help; cast me not away,  
Neither forsake me, O God of my salvation!

3 *Even then*—Heb. *in this* (perilous time).

4 *beauty*—This relates to all the objects in the temple and in its service, calculated to delight the senses.

5 *upon a rock*—i. e. The temple becomes to me as it were a rock of defence.

6 *of triumph*—Heb. *of shouting*.

8 Compare Ps. cv. 4. and Note.

— *Seek ye &c.*—"Ask and it shall be given you, seek, and ye shall find."—Matt. vii. 7.

9 *my help*—the source of my help.

- 10 Though my father and my mother forsake me;  
Yet JEHOVAH receiveth me.
- 11 Teach me Thy way, O JEHOVAH!  
And guide me into the path of rectitude,  
Because of those who watch me.
- 12 Give me not over to the desire of mine enemies;  
For there have arisen against me false witnesses,  
Who breathe out violence.
- 13 I surely trust to see the goodness of JEHOVAH,  
In the land of the living.
- 14 Rest thy hope in JEHOVAH.  
Be strong, and let thy heart be firm,  
And rest thy hope in JEHOVAH.

## PSALM XXVIII.

- 1 UNTO Thee, JEHOVAH! do I call,  
O my Rock! turn not in silence from me;  
Lest, if Thou turn in silence from me,  
I become like those, who descend into the pit.
- 2 Listen to the voice of my supplication,  
While I cry aloud unto Thee—  
While I lift up my hands towards Thy holy oracle.
- 3 Hurry me not away with the wicked,  
Even with the workers of iniquity;  
Who speak friendly to their fellows,  
When evil is in their hearts.

10 *Though &c.*—"Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee." *Isai. XLIX. 15.*

— *receiveth me*—*Heb. gathereth me.* i. e. is my patron.

11 *watch me*—*See Ps. v. 8. Note.*

12 *who breathe*—*Heb. and (each) breatheth.*

## XXVIII.

1 *turn not in silence from me*—

*Heb. be not dumb from me.*

2 *the voice of my supplication*—

*Heb. voice of my supplications,* i. e. my supplicating voice.

3 *hurry me not away*—as it were in the same net with them. *See Ps. x. 9.*  
— *holy oracle.*—i. e. "the holy of holies." Compare 1 Kings vi. 23. with 2 Chron. iii. 10.

— *workers &c.*—*See Ps. v. 5. Note.*

— *who speak friendly*—*Heb. speakers of peace.*

- 4 Render unto them according to their works,  
And according to the wickedness of their doings;  
According to the deeds of their hands render unto them,  
Return unto them their deserts.
- 5 Because they consider not the works of JEHOVAH,  
Nor the deeds of His hands;  
Let Him overthrow them,  
And let Him not build them up.
- 6 Blessed be JEHOVAH!  
For He listeneth to the voice of my supplication.
- 7 JEHOVAH is my strength, and my shield,  
In Him my heart trusteth.  
I am holpen, therefore my heart exulteth,  
And with my song do I praise Him.
- 8 JEHOVAH is his strength and defence;  
He is the salvation of His anointed!
- 9 Save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance;  
Be their shepherd, and uphold them for ever.

PSALM XXIX.

- 1 ASCRIBE unto JEHOVAH, ye sons of the mighty—  
Ascribe unto JEHOVAH glory and power!
- 2 Ascribe unto JEHOVAH the glory due unto His Name!  
Bow down unto JEHOVAH, in holy ornaments.
- 3 The voice of JEHOVAH is above the waters;

8 *his strength*—i. e. the strength of him whom He has anointed.

XXIX.

1 *sons of the mighty*—i. e. inhabitants of heaven. Compare Ps. LXXXIX.

6. Ps. ciii. 20.

2 *glory due unto*—Heb. *glory of*.  
— *holy ornaments*—The inhabit-

ants of heaven are here invited to come to the worship of Jehovah clad in sacred vestments. The "clothes of service," (Exod. xxxix. 1.) worn by the priests would readily suggest this idea to the Psalmist's mind. See also Ps. xcvi. 9.

3 *The voice of Jehovah*—i. e. The thunder.

The glorious God thundereth!

JEHOVAH is above the mighty waters!

4 The voice of JEHOVAH is full of power;

The voice of JEHOVAH is full of majesty; !

5 The voice of JEHOVAH breaketh the cedars,

Yea, JEHOVAH breaketh in pieces the cedars of Lebanon!

6 He maketh them to leap, like a calf—

Lebanon and Sirion, like a young gazelle.

7 The voice of JEHOVAH riveth asunder, with flashes of fire.

8 The voice of JEHOVAH maketh the desert tremble as in pangs,

JEHOVAH maketh the desert of Kadesh tremble as in pangs.

9 The voice of JEHOVAH maketh the hinds to tremble in labour;

Yea, it layeth bare the forests,

10 And, throughout His palace, it telleth His glory!

JEHOVAH sitteth enthroned above the waterflood,

Yea, JEHOVAH sitteth enthroned a King for ever!

11 May JEHOVAH give strength unto His people!

May JEHOVAH bless His people with prosperity!

3 *the waters*—i. e. the waters above the firmament of the heavens. See Gen. i. 7. Ps. cxlvi. 4. Torrents of rain usually follow the shock of thunder-clouds. Jeremiah (x. 13.) describes the voice of God (the thunder) as calling for the rains. So in Ps. cxxxv. 7. the lightnings and rain are mentioned together. Again, "Canst thou lift up thy voice to the clouds, that abundance of waters may cover thee?" Job xxxviii. 34.

— *Jehovah is above &c.*—"It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven." Amos ix. 6. See also Ps. civ. 3. The special abode of Jehovah is represented as being in the heaven of heavens, the highest heaven. Beneath this heaven are the waters, and below them, the firmament of heaven. Compare Ps. cxlvi. 4.

5 *cedars of Lebanon*—These, it is

well known, are remarkable for their height and magnitude.

6 *them*—i. e. Lebanon and Sirion.

— *Sirion*—i. e. mount Hermon "which the Sidonians call Sirion." Deut. iii. 9.

— *gazelle*—or antelope.

7 *riveth asunder*—not only trees, but rocks also.

8 *desert of Kadesh*—i. e. "the wilderness of Zin." Numb. xxxiii. 36. It is described as the "great and terrible wilderness" in Deut. i. 19.

9 *hinds*—This timid animal is named as being one of those most terrified by the thunder.

— *throughout His palace*—Heb. in His palace, the whole of it—i. e. from one end of the heavens to the other. Compare Ps. xi. 4. and Ps. xviii. 6.

10 *the waterflood*—i. e. the waters which are above the firmament. See ver. 3. Note 3.



## PSALM XXX.

- 1 I WILL extol Thee, JEHOVAH! for Thou hast raised me up,  
And hast not suffered mine enemies to exult over me.
- 2 O JEHOVAH, my God!  
I cried aloud unto Thee, and Thou hast healed me!
- 3 O JEHOVAH, Thou hast lifted me up from the grave!  
Thou hast kept me alive, so that I went not down into the pit!
- 4 Hymn unto JEHOVAH, ye His pious worshippers!  
And give praise unto His holy Name.
- 5 Truly, He is angry but for a moment;  
His favour endureth through life.  
In the evening, sorrow may take up her abode,  
But in the morning cometh joy.
- 6 As for me, I said in my prosperity:  
"I shall never be moved!"
- 7 Through Thy favour, O JEHOVAH!  
Thou causedst me to stand upon my strong mountain.  
Thou didst hide Thy face;  
I was confounded!
- 8 Unto Thee, O JEHOVAH! did I call,  
Yea, unto JEHOVAH did I make my supplication:

## XXX.

1 *raised me up*—as it were from the pit of destruction.

2 Compare Ps. xvi. 10.

3 *pious worshippers*—This is a title given to the Israelites, distinguishing them from the idolatrous nations which surrounded them.

— *Name*—Heb. *memorial*. "The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto

you: this is my name for ever, and *this is my memorial* unto all generations." Exod. iii. 15. "O Lord, the desire of our soul is to thy name, and to the remembrance of thee." Isai. xxvi. 8. See Ps. cxxxv. 13.

4 *abode*—i. e. with the pious worshippers mentioned in ver. 4.

7 *Thou didst hide &c.*—i. e. No sooner didst Thou withdraw from me Thy support and favour, than all my prosperity vanished.

- 9 "What profit is there in my blood?  
 "In my going down into the grave?  
 "Can dust praise Thee?  
 "Can it proclaim Thy faithfulness?  
 10 "Hear, O JEHOVAH! and be gracious unto me,  
 "O JEHOVAH! be Thou my helper."  
 11 Thou hast turned my mourning into dancing,  
 Thou hast loosed from off me my sackcloth,  
 And hast girded me with gladness.  
 12 Therefore will I hymn Thee, and will not be silent,  
 O JEHOVAH, my God! for ever will I praise Thee.

## PSALM XXXI.

- 1 WITH Thee, O JEHOVAH! do I take refuge,  
 Let me never be put to shame;  
 Through Thy mercy deliver me.  
 2 Incline Thine ear unto me,  
 Rescue me speedily,  
 Be unto me a rock of defence—  
 A fortress to save me.  
 3 For my rock and my fortress art Thou!  
 Yea, for Thy Name's sake guide me, and lead me.  
 4 Draw me out of the net, which they have hidden for me,  
 For Thou art my defence;

9 This and the tenth verse contain the Psalmist's earnest expostulation and prayer.

— *in my blood*—i. e. in the taking of my life.

11 *Thou hast turned &c.*—The Psalmist, convinced as it seems that his supplication had been heard, now pours forth his praises and thanksgiving to God. See Ps. iv. 7. Note 1.

— *sackcloth*—This was the habit of mourners. 2 Sam. iii. 3. 1 Kings

xx. 32. Isai. iii. 24.

12 *will I hymn &c.*—Heb. *will my glory* (i. e. my mind) *hymn Thee and will not &c.*

## XXXI.

This Psalm contains alternately prayers under distresses, and thanksgivings for deliverances.

2 *fortress*—Heb. *house of fortifications*.

4 *they*—i. e. my enemies.

- 5 Into Thy hands do I commit my life.  
 Redeem me, O JEHOVAH, God of truth!
- 6 I hate those, who regard lying vanities;  
 Yea, as for me, in JEHOVAH do I put my trust.
- 7 I exult and rejoice in Thy loving-kindness,  
 Because thou hast looked upon mine affliction.  
 THOU hast been mindful of my distresses,
- 8 And hast not given me up into the hands of the enemy;  
 THOU hast caused my feet to stand in a wide place.
- 9 Be gracious unto me, O JEHOVAH! for I am in distress,  
 Mine eye, my spirit, and my body waste away through vexation.
- 10 For my life is brought to an end with grief,  
 And my years with moaning.  
 My strength sinketh under my misery,  
 Yea, my bones waste away.
- 11 Unto all mine enemies I am become a reproach,  
 And unto my neighbours a burden,  
 Yea, a terror unto mine acquaintance;  
 Those, who see me abroad, flee from me.
- 12 I am forgotten, as a dead man, who is out of mind;  
 I am become like a broken vessel.
- 13 For I hear the slander of many;  
 Fear is on every side,  
 While they sit together consulting against me—  
 While they are devising how to take away my life.
- 14 As for me, upon Thee, JEHOVAH! do I place my confidence;  
 I say: "Thou art my God!"
- 15 My times are in Thy hand,  
 Rescue me from the hand of mine enemies,  
 And from my persecutors.
- 16 Show the light of Thy countenance unto Thy servant;  
 Save me, through Thy loving-kindness.

5 *life*—Heb. *breath*.

6 *lying vanities*—i. e. idols.

8 *given me up*—Heb. *shut me up*.

12 *become like*—i. e. utterly neglected

as being worthless.

15 *my times &c.*—i. e. all the vicissitudes in life which will befall me are perfectly known to Thee.

- 17 O JEHOVAH! let me not be put to shame,  
 For unto Thee do I call.  
 Let the wicked be put to shame,  
 Let them be put to silence in the grave
- 18 Let the lying lips be closed,  
 Which rail against the righteous, with pride and scorn.
- 19 How great is Thy goodness,  
 Which Thou hast laid up for those, who reverence Thee—  
 Which Thou shonest to those, who take refuge with Thee,  
 Before the sons of men!
- 20 THOU concealest them in Thy secret recesses,  
 From the conspiracies of men;  
 THOU treasurest them in Thy pavilion,  
 Away from the strife of tongues.
- 21 Blessed be JEHOVAH!  
 For He hath shown wonderfully His loving-kindness to me,  
 As though I had been in a fenced city.
- 22 But as for me, while fleeing in terror, I said:  
 "I am removed far out of Thy view!"
- 23 Yet truly, 'Thou didst hear the voice of my supplication,  
 When I cried aloud unto Thee.
- 24 Love JEHOVAH, all ye His pious worshippers! JEHOVAH preserveth the faithful,  
 And plentifully repayeth him, who dealeth proudly.
- 25 Be strong, and let your heart be firm,  
 All ye, who wait in confidence for JEHOVAH!

18 rail—Heb. *speak with harshness*.

19 shonest—Heb. *doest*.

— *before the sons of men*—i. e. openly, so that the world must acknowledge "there is a reward for the righteous man." Compare Ps. LViii. 11.

20 Thy secret recesses—Heb. *the secret place of Thy presence*. See Ps. xxvii. 5.

21 shown &c.—i. e. protected me in my flight as effectually as I could have been protected by the walls of a city.

— *fenced city*—"fenced cities, with walls, gates and bars." 2 Chron. viii. 5.

22 I am removed far &c.—Heb. *I am widely separated from before Thine eyes*.

## PSALM XXXII.

- 1 **HAPPY** he, whose transgression is pardoned—  
Whose sin is forgiven!
- 2 **Happy** the man,  
Unto whom **JEHOVAH** doth not impute iniquity,  
And in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 When I was silent, my bones wasted away,  
Through my moaning all the day long.
- 4 For, by day and night, Thy hand was heavy upon me,  
My moisture was turned into the dryness of summer.
- 5 I acknowledged unto Thee my sin,  
And I did not hide mine iniquity.  
I said: "I will confess my transgressions unto **JEHOVAH**!"  
And Thou didst pardon the heinousness of my sin.
- 6 Upon this account, will every pious man pray unto Thee,  
In the season, when Thou mayest be found.  
Truly, when the mighty waters overflow,  
They shall not reach him.

## XXXII.

1 *forgiven*—Heb. *covered*—so as not to be remembered against him.

2 *no guile*—i. e. the man who, without attempting to excuse or palliate any wicked act of his life, pours out his whole soul in humble confession and sincere repentance before God.

3 *When I was silent*—i. e. Before I made confession of my sin unto God.

5 *I acknowledged &c.*—In this verse the Psalmist describes the happy consequences which resulted from an open acknowledgment of his guilt

and a hearty repentance for his sins.

5 *the heinousness*—Heb. *the iniquity*.

6 *Upon this account &c.*—See Ps. cxxx. 4.

— *when Thou mayest be found*—Heb. *of finding*. "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon Him while he is near." Isai. lv. 6.

— *mighty waters &c.*—This expression signifies figuratively the approach of overwhelming calamities. See Ps. xlii. 7.

— *him*—i. e. the pious man whose penitence and prayer have been accepted.

- 7 THOU art a covert unto me ;  
 THOU guardest me from distress ;  
 THOU dost encompass me with songs of deliverance.
- 8 " I will instruct thee,  
 " And show thee the way, wherein thou shouldest walk.  
 " I will counsel thee,  
 " MINE eye shall be upon thee.
- 9 " Be ye not as the horse or the mule,  
 " Which have no understanding,  
 " Whose mouth must be holden with bridle and curb,  
 " Or they will not come nigh unto thee."
- 10 Many are the troubles of the wicked ;  
 But mercy encompasseth him, who trusteth in JEHOVAH.
- 11 Rejoice in JEHOVAH, and exult, ye righteous !  
 And sing aloud, all ye who are upright in heart !

## PSALM XXXIII.

- 1 SING aloud of JEHOVAH, ye righteous,  
 Praise is becoming to the upright.
- 2 Praise ye JEHOVAH, with the harp ;  
 With the ten-stringed lute, hymn ye unto Him.
- 3 Sing unto Him a new song,  
 Strike the harp sweetly, with shouts of triumph.
- 4 For the word of JEHOVAH is right,  
 And He is faithful in all His doings.

7 *Thou dost encompass &c.*—i. e. Thou suppliest me with frequent occasions of acknowledging, with gratitude, Thy deliverances.

8 *I will &c.*—This and the following verse are the words of God.

—*Mine eye &c.*—to watch you, lest you should wander from the right path and to warn you of the

dangers into which you might, without my guidance, fall.

9 *Or they will not come*—Heb. *There is not a coming.*

## XXXIII.

4 *And He is &c.*—Heb. *And all His doings are in faithfulness.*

- 5 HE loveth righteousness and equity;  
The earth is filled with the loving-kindness of JEHOVAH.
- 6 By the word of JEHOVAH were the heavens made,  
And all their hosts, by the breath of His mouth.
- 7 HE gathered together the waters of the sea, as in a heap,  
HE laid up the great deep, as in a treasure-house.
- 8 Let all the earth stand in awe of JEHOVAH;  
Let all the inhabitants of the world fear Him.
- 9 For HE spake, and it was done!  
HE commanded, and it stood firm!
- 10 JEHOVAH frustrateth the counsel of the heathen,  
HE maketh fruitless the devices of the nations.
- 11 The counsel of JEHOVAH standeth firm for ever—  
The devices of His heart, to all generations.
- 12 Happy the nation, whose God is JEHOVAH—  
The people, whom HE hath chosen for His inheritance!
- 13 JEHOVAH looketh down from heaven,  
HE beholdeth all the children of men.
- 14 From the place of His habitation,  
HE surveyeth all the inhabitants of the earth.
- 15 HE it is, who formeth all their hearts;  
HE it is, who discerneth all their doings.
- 16 No king is saved by a great host,  
Nor a mighty man rescued by his great strength.
- 17 Vain is reliance on the horse for safety;  
It cannot deliver by its great power.

*a their hosts*—i. e. the stars, "the armies above shining in the firmament of heaven," which "at the commandment of the Holy One stand in their order and never faint in their watches." Ecclus. xliii. 8, 9, 10. Compare Gen. ii. 1. Deut. iv. 19. xvii. 3.

*9 it was done*—Heb. *it was*. i. e. the word which HE spake was accomplished.

*11 to all generations*—Heb. *to generation and generation*.

*17 Vain is reliance on*—Heb. *a vain thing* (is). "The horse is prepared against the day of battle:

- 18 Lo, the eye of JEHOVAH is upon those, who reverence Him—  
 Who wait in confidence for His loving-kindness;  
 19 To rescue them from death,  
 And to keep them alive, in time of famine.
- 20 Our soul waiteth for JEHOVAH,  
 HE is our help, and our shield.  
 21 Truly, in Him our heart rejoiceth;  
 Truly, in His holy Name do we put our trust.
- 22 May Thy loving-kindness, O JEHOVAH! be upon us,  
 Since we wait in confidence for Thee!

## PSALM XXXIV.

*"Lamentation"*

- 1 I WILL bless JEHOVAH at all times,  
 His praise shall be continually in my mouth.
- 2 In JEHOVAH will I make my boast;  
 The meek shall hear, and be gladdened.
- 3 Magnify JEHOVAH with me,  
 And let us extol His Name together.
- 4 I sought JEHOVAH, and He answered me,  
 And delivered me from all my fears.
- 5 They look unto Him, and are enlightened,  
 And their faces are not ashamed.

but *safety* is of the LORD." Prov.  
 xxi. 31. "Neither shall he that  
 rideth the horse, deliver himself."  
 Amos ii. 15. See also Ps. xx. 7.  
 cxlvii. 10.

20 *Our soul waiteth*—i. e. we  
 wait.

## XXXIV.

This is an alphabetical Psalm.  
 See Ps. xxv. Introductory Note.

4 *sought*—i. e. in prayer.

5 *They*—i. e. the meek. See ver. 2.  
 — *enlightened*—i. e. exhilarated,  
 owing to their confidence in God.



- 6 This afflicted man called, and JEHOVAH heard,  
And saved him out of all his troubles.
- 7 The angels of JEHOVAH encamp  
About those who reverence Him, and rescue them.
- 8 Taste, and ye shall perceive that JEHOVAH is good.  
Happy the man, who taketh refuge with Him!
- 9 Reverence JEHOVAH, ye His holy ones,  
For those, who reverence Him, lack nothing.
- 10 The lions suffer want and hunger;  
But those, who seek JEHOVAH, lack no good thing.
- 11 Come, children, hearken unto me,  
I will teach you the reverence of JEHOVAH.
- 12 Who is the man, that desireth life—  
That loveth length of days—to see prosperity?
- 13 Keep thy tongue from evil,  
And thy lips from uttering deceit.
- 14 Depart from evil, and do good;  
Seek peace, and pursue it.

6 *This afflicted man*—pointing to himself.

7 *The angels &c.*—This description seems to have been suggested by Jacob's vision of angels, recorded in Gen. xxxii. 1, 2. "And Jacob went on his way, and the *angels* of God met him. And when Jacob saw them, he said, This is God's *host*: and he called the name of that place Mahanaim" (i.e. *encampments*).

11 *children*—By this affectionate

appellation Hebrew teachers were wont to address their scholars.

11 *the reverence of &c.*—i. e. the acceptable mode (Ps. Li. 17.) of shewing your reverence for Jehovah. The Psalmist goes on to state that a holy life is the true testimony of such reverence.

12 *length of days*—Heb. *days*.

13 *Keep &c.*—(To such an one I would say) Keep &c.

14 *Seek peace*—i. e. Endeavour to live peaceably.

- 15 The eyes of JEHOVAH are upon the righteous,  
And His ears are open to their cry.
- 16 The face of JEHOVAH is against those, who do evil,  
To cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.
- 17 The righteous cry aloud, and JEHOVAH heareth,  
And delivereth them out of all their distresses.
- 18 JEHOVAH is nigh unto the broken-hearted,  
And He saveth the wounded in spirit.
- 19 Many are the ills of the righteous man,  
But from them all doth JEHOVAH deliver him.
- 20 HE preserveth all his bones;  
Not one of them is broken.
- 21 Wickedness bringeth death to the wicked,  
And those, who hate the righteous, are punished.
- 22 JEHOVAH redeemeth the lives of His servants,  
And none, who take refuge with Him, are punished.

## PSALM XXXV.

- 1 **CONTEND, JEHOVAH!** with those, who contend with me;  
Fight Thou against those, who fight against me.
- 2 Lay hold on shield and buckler, *Ps. 4. Verse 10, 11, 12*  
And rise up to mine aid.

16 *face &c.*—i. e. anger, See Lev. xx. 5.

17 *The righteous*—Heb. *they*. See ver. 15.

18 *wounded*—Heb. *bruised*, i. e. those righteous persons whose minds are broken down by the calamities and oppression which they are suffering.

- 3 Draw forth the javelin, close the way, and face my pursuers,  
Say unto me: "I am thy salvation."
- 4 Let those, who seek my life,  
Be brought to shame and contempt;  
Let those, who devise mischief against me,  
Be turned back with confusion of face.
- 5 Let them be, as chaff before the wind,  
And let the angel of JEHOVAH thrust them down.
- 6 Let their way be dark and slippery,  
And let the angel of JEHOVAH pursue them.
- 7 For, without cause, they hide for me pitfalls and their net,  
Without cause, do they hollow out pits for me.
- 8 Let destruction come upon them unawares;  
Yea, let the net, which they have hidden, catch themselves,  
Into that destruction let them fall.
- 9 But my soul will exult in JEHOVAH,  
It will rejoice in His salvation.
- 10 All my bones shall say:  
"O JEHOVAH! who is like unto Thee!  
"Thou savest the afflicted from him, who is too strong for him,  
"Yea, the poor afflicted from his spoiler!"
- 11 False witnesses stand up,  
They ask me of that which I know not.
- 12 They repay me with evil for good;  
I am left desolate!

## XXXV.

3 *close the way &c.*—Heb. *close up so as to meet face to face my pursuers.*

4 *mischief*—Heb. *evil.*

— *with confusion of face*—Heb. *and let them blush.*

5 *the angel of Jehovah*—Storm and tempest are sometimes represented in scripture as ministers of God. Compare Ps. civ. 4.

10 *All my bones &c.*—This mode of

speaking is highly intensive. The meaning is that the Psalmist is inwardly and thoroughly penetrated with a sense of God's goodness.

11 *False witnesses*—Heb. *witnesses of violence.*

— *They ask &c.*—i. e. They question me concerning that which I am guiltless of.

12 *I am left &c.*—Heb. *bereavement to my soul.*

- 13 But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing was sackcloth,  
I humbled myself with fasting;  
And may my prayer return into mine own bosom!
- 14 I behaved myself,  
As though it had been my friend or brother;  
As though lamenting for a mother,  
I was bowed down, in the garb of mourning.
- 15 But when I was falling,  
They rejoiced and assembled together,  
They assembled together against me;  
Railing at me for that which I knew not,  
Without ceasing, did they revile me.
- 16 With men, who jest profanely for their bread,  
They gnashed their teeth at me.
- 17 Lord! how long wilt Thou look on?  
Save me from their destruction—  
My life from the lions.
- 18 I will celebrate Thee, in the great assembly;  
Before the vast multitude, will I praise Thee.

13 *And may my prayer &c.*—i. e. I only desire that what I prayed might befall my enemies may be my own reward. The Psalmist thus expresses himself to shew that he here prayed for blessings and not curses upon his enemies.

— *into mine own bosom*—This refers to the custom of folding the garment and carrying gifts &c. in the lap. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give *into your bosom*," Luke vi. 38.

14 *of mourning*—See Ps. xlii. 9. Note.

15 *when I was falling*—Heb. *at my halting*. i. e. when calamities

pressed heavily upon me, and I was sinking under them.

15 *Railing at me*—Heb. *smiters*, i. e. with their tongue. "Come, and let us smite him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words," Jer. xviii. 18.

— *without ceasing*—Heb. *and were not silent*.

— *revile*—Heb. *tear*. i. e. with scoffings and reproaches.

16 *men, who jest &c.*—i. e. low buffoons and parasites.

17 *save*—Heb. *bring back or restore*.

— *their destruction*—i. e. the ruin which they would bring upon me.

— *my life*—See Ps. xxii. 20. and Note.

— *lions*—See Ps. xxii. 12. Note 1.

- 19 Let not those, who unjustly are mine enemies, rejoice over me,  
Let not those, who without cause hate me, wink with the eye.
- 20 For they speak not peace;  
But, against the quiet in the land, devise deceitful words.
- 21 They open wide their mouth at me, they say:  
"Aha, aha! Our eye seeth!"
- 22 THOU seest, O JEHOVAH! be not silent;  
O Lord, be not far from me.
- 23 Arouse Thyself, and awake, to assert my right—  
O my God and my Lord! to plead my cause.
- 24 Give sentence for me, according to Thy righteousness,  
O JEHOVAH, my God!  
And let them not rejoice over me.
- 25 Let them not say in their hearts: "Aha! Our desire!"  
Let them not say: "We have destroyed him."
- 26 Let all those, who rejoice at my calamity,  
Be brought to shame, and confusion of face;  
Let those, who exalt themselves against me,  
Be clothed with shame and contempt.
- 27 Let those, who favour mine innocence, sing and rejoice,  
And let them say continually:  
"Great is JEHOVAH,  
"Who hath delight in the prosperity of His servant!"
- 28 So shall my tongue tell of Thy righteousness—  
All the day long, of Thy praise.

19 *wink* — probably in token of triumph.

20 *not peace*—i. e. most reproachful and irritating language. Compare Ps. v. 4. Note. and Ps. cxix. 85. Note 2.

21 *seeth!*—i. e. beholds our enemy in the fallen condition in which we desire to see him. See ver. 25. Compare Ps. xcii. 11.

23 *to assert* &c. — Heb. *to my right.*

— *to plead* &c. — Heb. *to my cause.*

24 *righteousness*—See Ps. xi. 7.

25 *Our desire!*—i. e. Our desire is accomplished. See ver. 21. Note.

— *destroyed him*—Heb. *swallowed him up.*

## PSALM XXXVI.

- 1 THE dictate of sin to the wicked man is in my thoughts;  
There is no fear of God before his eyes!
- 2 Truly, he flattereth himself in his own eyes;  
To discover his iniquity is hateful to him.
- 3 The words of his mouth are wicked and deceitful,  
He hath ceased to act wisely—to do good.
- 4 He deviseth wickedness, upon his bed;  
He persisteth in a way, which is not good;  
He abhorreth not evil!
- 5 O JEHOVAH! Thy loving-kindness reacheth unto the heavens—  
Thy faithfulness, unto the clouds.
- 6 Thy righteousness is like the strong mountains,  
Thy judgments are like the great deep.  
O JEHOVAH! Thou preservest man and beast.
- 7 How precious is Thy loving-kindness, O God!  
The sons of men take refuge under the shadow of Thy wings!
- 8 They are satisfied, out of the abundance of Thy house;  
Of the stream of Thy pleasures, Thou causest them to drink.
- 9 For with Thee is the fountain of life;  
Through Thy light, do we see light.

## XXXVI.

1 *the dictate &c.*—the suggestion which his own wicked heart makes to the sinner, namely, that he has no need to fear God.

— *is in my thoughts*—Heb. (is) *within my heart*, i. e. is the subject of my meditations.

2 *hateful to him*—Heb. *for hate*.

4 *not good*—i. e. most wicked. See Ps. cxix. 85. Note 2.

5 *unto the heavens*—Compare Ps. cxiii. 11.

6 *Thy righteousness &c.*—i. e. The certainty that Thou wilt abide by and redeem Thy promise is as surely fixed as are the great mountains.

Compare Ps. cxix. 89, 90. and Note.

6 *the strong mountains*—Heb. *the mountains of God*.

— *like the great deep*—i. e. as unfathomable as &c. “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!” Rom. xi. 33. Compare also Ps. xcii. 5.

7 *wings*—See Ps. xvii. 8. Note.

8 *abundance*—Heb. *fatness*.

— *satisfied*—Heb. *saturated*.

9 *life*—i. e. happiness.

— *Through Thy light &c.*—i. e. By Thy favour do we enjoy good. Compare Ps. iv. 6.

- 10 Continue Thy loving-kindness unto those, who own Thee,  
And Thy mercy unto the upright in heart.  
11 Let not the foot of pride come upon me,  
Nor the hand of the wicked drive me away.  
12 Then shall the workers of iniquity fall,  
They shall be thrust down, and be unable to rise.

## PSALM XXXVII.

- 1 BE not thou angry with the wicked;  
Be not envious against evil-doers.  
2 For, like the grass, they will quickly be cut down,  
And wither, like the green herb.  
3 Place confidence in JEHOVAH, and do good;  
Thou shalt dwell in the land, and thou shalt feed securely.  
4 Yea, thou shalt have delight in JEHOVAH,  
And He will grant unto thee the requests of thy heart.  
5 Commit thy way unto JEHOVAH,  
Yea, place confidence in Him; and He will act for thee.  
6 HE will make thine innocency to come forth, as the light—  
And thy rightful cause, as the noon-day.

11 *come upon*—to insult and trample upon me. See Ps. xli. 9.

— *drive me away*—Heb. *cause me to wander*—i. e. from my home.

12 *Then*—i. e. When the loving-kindness of God is extended to the upright. See ver. 10.

## XXXVII.

This Psalm is alphabetical. See Ps. xxv. Introductory Note.

1 *with the wicked*—i. e. at the prosperity of the wicked.

2 *like the grass &c.*—Their prosperity is as transient and short-lived

as the grass which is dried up by the heat of the Sun. This comparison will appear the more apposite, if we take into consideration the great heat of the climate of Palestine.

3 *feed securely*—as sheep under the care of a good shepherd.

5 *Commit*—Heb. *Devolve*. See Ps. xxii. 8.

— *act for thee*—Heb. *act*, i. e. bring your cause to a favourable issue.

6 *come forth*—as the rising sun.  
— *thy rightful cause*—Heb. *thy right*.

- 7 Repose upon JEHOVAH, and wait patiently for Him.  
Be not angry with him, whose way doth prosper—  
With the man, who effecteth his wicked devices.
- 8 Cease from anger, and abandon wrath;  
Be not angry, so as to do evil.
- 9 For the wicked shall be cut off;  
But those, who wait for JEHOVAH, shall possess the land.
- 10 Yet a little while, and the wicked man is no more!  
When thou shalt survey his place, he shall not be found!
- 11 But the meek shall possess the land,  
And have delight in abundance of prosperity.
- 12 The wicked man deviseth evil against the righteous,  
And gnasheth his teeth at him.
- 13 The Lord laugheth at him,  
For He seeth that his day is coming.
- 14 The wicked draw their sword,  
And bend their bow,  
To cast down the afflicted and the needy—  
To slay those, who walk in the path of rectitude.
- 15 Their sword shall enter their own heart,  
And their bows shall be broken.
- 16 Better is the little, which the righteous hath,  
Than the substance of many wicked men.
- 17 For the arms of the wicked shall be broken;  
But JEHOVAH upholdeth the righteous.
- 18 JEHOVAH taketh account of the days of the upright,  
And their inheritance abideth for ever.
- <sup>a</sup> so as to do evil—Heb. but to do evil.  
<sup>13</sup> his day—i. e. the day of his punishment. Compare Ps. cxxxvii. 7.
- <sup>14</sup> those who &c.—Heb. the upright of way.  
<sup>18</sup> taketh account—i. e. taketh care that there is no diminution of their full number.



19 They shall not be put to shame, in the time of calamity;  
And in the days of famine, they shall be satisfied.

20 Truly, the wicked shall perish,  
Yea, the enemies of JEHOVAH;  
Like the fat of lambs, shall they be consumed—  
Be consumed, and vanish as smoke!

21 The wicked man borroweth, and doth not repay;  
But the righteous man is merciful and liberal.

22 For those, who are blessed of Him, shall possess the land,  
And those, who are cursed of Him, shall be cut off.

23 By JEHOVAH are the steps of a man established,  
When his way is pleasing unto Him.

24 When he is falling, he shall not be thrown headlong,  
For JEHOVAH upholdeth him with His hand.

25 I have been young, and I am grown old;  
And I have never seen the righteous man forsaken,  
Nor his seed begging for bread.

26 He is ever merciful, and lendeth;  
And his seed shall be blessed.

27 Depart from evil, and do good;  
So shalt thou dwell in the land for ever.

28 For JEHOVAH loveth equity,  
And He forsaketh not His pious worshippers.

20 *lambs*—offered in sacrifice.  
— *consumed and vanish as*—Heb.  
*consumed*. Compare Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.  
and Ps. cii. 3.

21 *The wicked man &c.*—The wicked man is continually obliged to borrow without ever having the means of paying; but the good man has always not only the will but the ability to give. "The Lord shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his

season, and to bless all the work of thine hand; and thou shalt *lend* unto many nations, and thou shalt *not borrow*." Deut. xxviii. 12.

23 *established*—Compare Prov. xvi. 9.

24 *His hand*—Compare Ps. cxliv. 7.

25 *forsaken*—i. e. of God.

26 *lendeth*—Compare ver. 21. Note.

27 *dwell in the land*—Heb. *dwell*. See ver. 3.

- The wicked shall be destroyed for ever ;  
 Yea, the seed of the wicked shall be cut off.
- 29 The righteous shall possess the land,  
 And dwell therein for ever.
- 30 The mouth of the righteous uttereth wisdom,  
 And his tongue speaketh equity.
- 31 The law of his God is in his heart,  
 His steps do not falter.
- 32 The wicked man watcheth for the righteous,  
 And seeketh to kill him.
- 33 JEHOVAH will not leave him in his hand,  
 Nor suffer him to be condemned, when he is judged.
- 34 Place thy hope upon JEHOVAH,  
 And keep His way.<sup>35</sup>  
 Then shall He raise thee up to possess the land ;  
 Thou shalt behold the destruction of the wicked.
- 35 I have seen the wicked man formidable,  
 And spreading himself, like a verdant native tree ;
- 36 But he passed away ! and lo, he was no more !  
 Yea, I sought him, and he could not be found !
- 37 Mark the man of integrity, and look at the upright man !  
 For to the man of peace there shall be posterity.
- 38 But transgressors shall all be destroyed ;  
 The posterity of the wicked shall be cut off.
- 39 The salvation of the righteous is from JEHOVAH ;  
 HE is their defence, in time of trouble.
- 40 JEHOVAH will help them, and deliver them ;  
 HE will deliver them from the wicked, and save them,  
 Because they take refuge with Him.

29 The wicked—Heb. *They*.

34 Thou shalt behold &c.—Heb.  
*when the wicked are cut off, thou  
 shalt see.*

35 native tree—to the growth of

which the soil is especially favour-  
 able.

37 posterity—Compare Ps. cxxviii.

39 He is their defence—Heb. *Their  
 defence.*

## PSALM XXXVIII.

- 1 O JEHOVAH! reprove me not in the vehemence of Thine anger,  
Neither chastise me in the heat of Thy wrath.
- 2 For Thine arrows have entered deeply into me,  
And Thy hand presseth heavily upon me.
- 3 There is no soundness in my flesh,  
Because of Thine indignation;  
There is no health in my bones,  
By reason of my sin.
- 4 For mine iniquities have passed over my head;  
Like a heavy burden, they are too heavy for me.
- 5 My wounds are loathsome and putrid,  
Because of my wickedness.
- 6 I am bent low, I am bowed down exceedingly;  
I go, all the day, in the garb of mourning.
- 7 For my loins are filled with a burning heat,  
And there is no soundness in my flesh.
- 8 I am enfeebled, and I am bruised exceedingly;  
I moan aloud through the disquietude of my heart.
- 9 O Lord! all my desire is before Thee,  
And my groaning is not hidden from Thee.
- 10 My heart throbbereth, my strength hath forsaken me;  
The very light of mine eyes is no longer with me.
- 11 My lovers and my companions stand aloof from my plague,  
And my kinsmen stand afar off.
- 12 Those, who seek my life, lay snares;  
And those, who seek my hurt, speak mischievous words,  
And meditate deceits, all the day long.

## XXXVIII.

4 *passed*—like an overwhelming flood of waters. See Ps. xlii. 7.

5 *wickedness*—Heb. *folly*. See Ps. xiv. 1. Note.

6 *go*—Heb. *walk*. i.e. have my conversation or live.

9 *before Thee*—i.e. perfectly known to Thee.

10 *The very &c.*—i.e. my sight fails me.

11 *my plague*—i.e. the divine infliction under which I am suffering so greatly.

- 13 As for me, like a deaf man, I hear not;  
I am like a dumb man, who doth not open his mouth.
- 14 Yea, I am as a man, who doth not hear,  
And in whose mouth are no upbraidings.
- 15 For I wait with confidence for Thee, O JEHOVAH!  
Thou wilt answer, O Lord my God!
- 16 Truly, I have said:  
"Let them not rejoice over me!"  
They magnify themselves against me,  
When my foot is moved.
- 17 For I am ready to fall,  
And my pain is ever present to me.
- 18 For I confess mine iniquity,  
I am in fear, by reason of my sin.
- 19 But mine enemies live, and are mighty,  
Yea, many are those, who hate me wrongfully,
- 20 Even those, who repay evil for good—  
Who hate me, in return for my seeking their good! <sup>40-400, 175</sup>
- 21 Forsake me not, O JEHOVAH!  
O my God! be not far from me;  
Hasten to mine aid, O Lord, my Salvation!

## PSALM XXXIX.

- 1 I SAID: "I will take heed to my ways,  
"That I offend not with my tongue.  
"I will keep a check upon my mouth,  
"While the wicked man is before me."

17 *ready to fall*—Compare Psalm xxxv. 15.

20 *their good*—Heb. *good*. See Ps. xxxv. 13. and Note.

## XXXIX.

The Psalmist, suffering under the afflicting hand of God, resolves to be entirely silent in the presence of the wicked, lest by any expression of impatience he should give them occasion

of triumph. He consoles himself, however, with the reflection that all the miseries of this life must shortly come to an end; praying at the same time that God would be graciously pleased at once to remit his punishment, and thus enable him to proclaim His mercy and justify the dealings of His Providence.

1 *a check*—Heb. *a gag or muzzle*.

2 I was altogether dumb; I held my peace from good and bad:

But my pain was increased.

3 My heart was hot within me,

Through my sighing the fire kindled;

I spake with my tongue:

4 "O JEHOVAH! cause me to bear in mind mine end,

"And how short is the measure of my days;

"Let me bear in mind how frail I am."

5 Behold, Thou hast made my days a span long,

And my life is as nothing in Thy sight!

Truly, man in his firmest state is altogether vanity!

6 Of a truth, man departeth, as a shadow,

Of a truth, he disquieteth himself in vain;

He pileth up heaps, and knoweth not who shall use them.

7 And now, for what do I wait, O Lord?

My hope is in Thee.

8 Deliver me from all my transgressions,

Make me not the reproach of the wicked.

9 I am dumb, I open not my mouth,

Because Thou hast done it.

2 *I was &c.*—Heb. *I was made dumb in silence.*

— *from good and bad*—Heb. *from good.* This proverbial expression occurs frequently in scripture, and it would seem that, owing to the constant use of it, one part only of the sentence has been here expressed. Thus, "Take heed that thou speak not to Jacob *either good or bad.*" Gen. xxxi. 24. Again, "Absalom spake *neither good nor bad.*" 2 Sam. xiii. 22.

— *was increased*—Heb. *was troubled.*

4 *the measure &c.*—i. e. the ordinary length of human life.

6 *man departeth &c.*—i. e. the life of man is so fleeting that it resembles

a shadow which quickly passes away. Compare Ps. cii. 11. cix. 23. cxliv. 4. See also ver. 12. Note.

8 *use them*—Heb. *take them.* i. e. appropriate them to himself.

9 *from all &c.*—i. e. from the punishment due to my many sins.

— *wicked*—Heb. *fool.* See Ps. xiv. 1. Note.

9 *I am dumb &c.*—I am so much oppressed by the heavy punishment of my sins, that I am unable to vindicate Thy ways to the wicked. See Ps. li. 15.

— *Because Thou &c.*—Thus, in the instance of Shimei, 2 Sam. xvi. 10. David said "let him curse, for the Lord hath said unto him, curse David."

- 10 Remove from me Thy plague;  
 I consume away under the stroke of Thy hand.
- 11 With rebukes dost Thou chastise man for iniquity;  
 And, as a moth, Thou causest his beauty to decay.  
 Truly, all men are vanity!
- 12 Hear my prayer, O JEHOVAH!  
 And incline Thine ear unto my cry;  
 Be not deaf to my tears.  
 For I am a stranger with Thee—  
 A sojourner, as were all my fathers.
- 13 Turn from me Thine angry look, that I may be cheered,  
 Before I depart, and be no more.

## PSALM XL.

- 1 I HAVE patiently waited for JEHOVAH;  
 And He hath inclined His ear unto Me, and heard My cry.
- 2 HE hath raised Me out of the pit of destruction—  
 Out of the miry clay;  
 And hath placed My feet upon a rock.  
 HE hath established My steps.
- 3 HE hath put into My mouth a new song—  
 A song of praise unto our God!  
 Many see this, and reverence Him,  
 And place their confidence in JEHOVAH.

10 *Thy plague*—Compare Ps. xxxviii. 11. Note.

11 *as a moth*—"Therefore will I be unto Ephraim *as a moth*, and to the house of Judah as rottenness." Hosea v. 12.

— *to decay*—Heb. *to melt away*.

12 *a stranger*—one sheltering, as it were, under Thy roof, and dependent solely upon Thee for support and safety during my transitory abode in this world. Thus David speaks

1 Chron. xxix. 15.—"For we are *strangers* before thee, and *sojourners* as were all our fathers; our days on the earth are as a shadow and there is none abiding."

## XL.

This Psalm is prophetic of the sufferings of Messiah.

3 *see this &c.*—Heb. *see and fear*.

— *this*—i. e. the divine interposition in My behalf.

- 1 Happy the man, who maketh JEHOVAH his confidence,  
And turneth not unto the proud,  
Nor to such as go aside after a deceitful hope!
- 5 Great are the works, which Thou hast done,  
O JEHOVAH, my God!—  
Thy wonderful acts, and Thy counsels on our behalf!  
There is none to be compared with Thee!  
I would declare and rehearse them,  
But they are more than can be numbered!
- 6 In sacrifice and offering Thou delightest not;  
(MINE ears hast Thou opened)  
Burnt-offering and sacrifice for sin Thou dost not require;
- 7 Therefore have I said: "Behold! I come,  
"According to that which is written concerning Me,  
"In the volume of the Book."
- 8 I delight to do Thy will, O My God!  
And Thy law is within My heart.
- 9 I announce the glad tidings of Thy mercy,  
In the great assembly.  
Behold, I restrain not My lips;  
O JEHOVAH! Thou knowest it!
- 10 Thy righteousness I hide not within My heart;  
I declare Thy faithfulness and Thy salvation.  
I do not conceal Thy loving-kindness and Thy truth,  
From the great assembly.

1 go aside—i. e. from the path of rectitude.

— after a deceitful hope—i. e. after idols.

5 on our behalf—Heb. towards us.

— compared—See Ps. LXXXIX. 6.

— them—i. e. Thy marvellous deeds.

6 opened—Heb. digged. The meaning is that the truth just stated had been communicated to the Messiah by the Almighty.

7 I come—I am ready to obey Thy revealed will, and carry forward Thy merciful purposes.

— written—in the prophetic parts of the Old Testament.

8 My heart—Heb. my bowels.

9 restrain not—Compare Ps. cxix. 85. Note 2.

10 faithfulness—in fulfilling His promise of future salvation by the sending of the Messiah.

- 11 O JEHOVAH! withhold not Thou Thy mercies from Me;  
 Let Thy loving-kindness and Thy truth ever preserve Me.
- 12 For calamities without number have encompassed Me; 910??  
 Afflictions have overtaken Me,  
 And I am not able to see.  
 They are more in number than the hairs of My head,  
 And My heart faileth Me.
- 13 Let it be Thy pleasure, O JEHOVAH! to deliver Me;  
 O JEHOVAH! hasten to Mine aid.
- 14 Let all those, who seek to destroy My life,  
 Be brought to shame, and confusion of face.  
 Let those, who delight in My calamity,  
 Be driven backward, and covered with contempt.
- 15 Let those be confounded, because of their shame,  
 Who say unto Me: "Aha, Aha!"
- 16 Let all those, who seek Thee, be glad and rejoice in Thee;  
 Let those, who love Thy salvation, ever say:  
 "May JEHOVAH be magnified!"
- 17 As for Me, I am afflicted and poor, *low & helpless*  
 May the Lord think upon me!  
 Thou art My help, and My deliverer;  
 O My God! delay not.

12 *Afflictions*—Heb. *mine afflictions*.

— *to see*—Compare Ps. xxxviii. 10.

14 See Ps. xxxv. 4. Note and 26.

15 *Aha, Aha!*—Their cry of exultation. Compare Ps. xxxv. 21, 25.

17 *delay not*—i. e. to come to my assistance.



## PSALM XLI.

- 1 **HAPPY** he, who considereth the afflicted man!  
**JEHOVAH** will deliver him, in the day of calamity.
- 2 **JEHOVAH** will guard him, and preserve him alive.  
 He shall be made happy in the land,  
 And Thou wilt not give him up to the desire of his enemies.
- 3 **JEHOVAH** will support him, upon the bed of languishing;  
 Thou wilt make all his bed, in his sickness.
- 4 As for me, I say:  
 "Be gracious unto me, O **JEHOVAH**!  
 "Heal me, for I have sinned against Thee."
- 5 Mine enemies speak evil of me:  
 "When will he die, and his name perish?"
- 6 Yea, if they come to see me, they speak falsely,  
 Their hearts gather iniquity;  
 They go forth, they utter it!
- 7 All those, who hate me, whisper together against me,  
 Against me do they devise evil:
- 8 "Some heavy crime presseth upon him,  
 "And he shall not rise again from his bed."
- 9 Even my familiar friend, in whom I trusted—  
 Who ate of my bread—  
 He lifteth up his heel against me.

## XLI.

1 *afflicted*—i. e. by bodily disease. This and the two following verses relate to those who kindly sympathize with the Psalmist in his sufferings. See ver. 8.

3 *make*—Heb. *turn*. This expression was probably suggested to the Psalmist's mind by the condition in which he was himself placed at the time. See ver. 8.

4 *for I have sinned* &c.—i. e. in-

asmuch as I have done wickedly and therefore stand in need of Thy pardon.

6 *Their hearts* &c.—i. e. They devise, and collect materials for calumnious charges against me.

8 *Some heavy crime*—Heb. *a matter of Belial*.

— *his bed*—Heb. *where he lieth*.

9 *his heel*—thus showing the utmost contempt and insolence. See Ps. xxxvi. 11.

- 10 But Thou, O JEHOVAH! be gracious unto me;  
 Raise me up, and I will repay them.
- 11 By this I know that Thou regardest me with favour,  
 Because mine enemy doth not triumph over me.
- 12 As for me, Thou upholdest me, through mine integrity,  
 And causest me to stand before Thy face for ever.
- 13 Blessed be JEHOVAH, the God of Israel,  
 From everlasting unto everlasting! AMEN and AMEN!

## PSALMS XLII. XLIII.

- 1 AS the hart crieth after the streams of water,  
 So do I cry after Thee, O God!
- 2 I thirst for God—for the living God!  
 When shall I enter in, and appear before God?
- 3 My tears are my food, by day and night,  
 While, all the day long, they say unto me:  
 "Where is Thy God?"
- 4 These things I call to remembrance,  
 As I pour out my soul by myself:  
 How I passed with the throng—  
 How I led them in procession to the House of God,  
 Even the multitude keeping the feast,  
 With the voice of song and praise!

12 *causest &c.*—i. e. enablest me to frequent the courts of Thy House.

13 It may be observed that the Psalms are in the Hebrew divided into five Books. The first Book ends with this Doxology. A similar Doxology will be found at the close of the second, third and fourth Books. See Ps. LXXII. 18, 19. Ps. LXXXIX. 52. and Ps. cvi. 48. At the end of the fifth Book, no distinct Doxology appears, probably because the last

Psalm is, throughout, a Psalm of praise.

## XLII. XLIII.

1 *crieth*—"The beasts of the field cry also unto Thee; for the rivers of waters are dried up."—Joel i. 20.

— *streams*—Heb. *channels*.

2 *enter in*—to the House of God. See Ps. XLI. 12. Note. Also ver. 4. of this Psalm.

3 *they*—i. e. mine enemies. See ver. 10.

- 5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul!  
 And why art thou disquieted within me?  
 Wait in confidence for God,  
 For yet again shall I praise Him—  
 6 My Salvation, and my God!

My soul is cast down within me;  
 Therefore do I call Thee to remembrance,  
 From the land of Jordan, and the Hermons—  
 From the mountain of Mitzar.

- 7 Deep calleth unto deep, with the voice of Thy water-spouts;  
 All Thy waves and Thy billows pass over me.

- 8 By day: "May JEHOVAH give command to His mercy!"  
 By night, a song of Him is also present with me—  
 A prayer unto the God of my life.

- 9 I say unto God:  
 "O my Rock! why hast Thou forgotten me?  
 "Why do I go about, in the garb of mourning,  
 "Under the oppression of mine enemies?"

5 *yet again*—as heretofore in the public service of the temple from which I am at present debarred. See ver. 4.

6 *My salvation*—Heb. *the salvation of my countenance*.

— *the Hermons*—These formed part of the ridge of Antilibanus, in which the Jordan has its source.

— *Mitzar*—This is probably the name of a mountain in the same district with the Hermons.

7 *Deep &c.*—The Psalmist compares his afflictions to mighty waters by which he is surrounded. Compare Ps. xxxii. 6. The waters above and below the firmament are the deeps here alluded to. The Psalmist poetically represents these deeps as holding communication with each other

by means of waterspouts, which bring down rushing torrents, thereby causing those "waves and billows" which threaten to overwhelm him. The imagery here, like that of Ps. xxix. 10, appears to be taken from the Deluge.

8 *May Jehovah &c.*—This is the substance of the Psalmist's daily prayer. See Ps. xliiii. 8.

— *give command*—to interpose in my favour. See Ps. xliiii. 3.

— *of Him*—i. e. in honour of God.

— *of my life*—i. e. who preserveth my life.

9 *the garb of mourning*—"David went up by the ascent of mount Olivet, and wept as he went up, and had his head covered, and he went barefoot"—2 Sam. xv. 30.

10 When my bones are crushed, mine enemies revile me.  
While, all the day long, they say unto me:  
"Where is thy God?"

11 Why art thou cast down, O my soul!  
And why art thou disquieted within me?  
Wait in confidence for God,  
For yet again shall I praise Him—  
My Salvation, and my God.

*How the Lord always answers the prayers of His faithful people*

1 Give sentence for me, O God! and maintain my cause;  
Deliver me from a merciless people—  
From deceitful and wicked men.

2 For Thou art my God—my defence;  
Why hast Thou rejected me?  
Why do I go about, in the garb of mourning,  
Under the oppression of mine enemies?

3 Send forth Thy light, and Thy truth,  
Let these guide me;  
Let them bring me unto Thy holy mountain,  
Even unto Thy dwelling-place.

4 Yea, let me enter in, unto the altar of God—  
Unto God, my joy and exultation;  
And praise Thee with the harp, O God, my God!

5 Why art thou cast down, O my soul!  
And why art thou disquieted within me?  
Wait in confidence for God,  
For yet again shall I praise Him—  
My Salvation, and my God.

10 *When &c.*—i. e. while I am suffering under the heaviest judgments of God. Compare Ps. li. 8, and Ps. lxi. 26.

3 *light*—i. e. favour. See Ps. xxxvi. 9.

4 *joy and exultation*—Heb. *joy of my exultation*.

## PSALM XLIV.

- 1 O GOD! with our ears have we heard,  
Our fathers have declared unto us,  
The works, which Thou wroughtest in their days—  
In the days of old.
- 2 THOU with Thy hand didst dispossess the heathen;  
But them Thou plantedst.  
THOU didst destroy the people;  
But them Thou causedst to spread abroad.
- 3 For they acquired not the land by their own sword,  
Nor did their own arm bring salvation unto them;  
But Thy right hand, and Thine arm,  
And the light of Thy countenance,  
Because Thou didst favour them.
- 4 It is Thou, who art my King, O God!  
Give command for the salvation of Jacob.
- 5 Through Thee, we thrust down our enemies,  
In Thy Name, we trample on those, who rise up against us.
- 6 For I place not my confidence in my bow,  
Nor doth my sword save me.
- 7 For Thou savest us from our enemies,  
And puttest to shame those, who hate us.
- 8 In God we make our boast all the day long,  
And Thy Name do we praise for ever. *Ps. 113.*
- 9 But Thou rejectest, and bringest us into contempt,  
And goest not forth with our armies.

## XLIV.

- 2 *them*—i. e. the Israelites.  
— *plantedst*—Israel is here compared to a vine planted in the promised land. Compare Ps. lxxx. 8, &c. in which this comparison is carried out with remarkable force and beauty of language.  
— *destroy*—Heb. *break in pieces* or *crush*.  
— *people*—Heb. *peoples*. i. e. the

nations of Canaan.

- 2 *them*—i. e. the Israelites.  
— *spread abroad*—as branches of the vine. See ver. 1. Note 2.  
3 *the land*—the promised land of Canaan.  
4 *It is Thou &c.*—Thou, who art my king, wert the deliverer of my fathers.  
— *of Jacob*—i. e. of the house of Israel.

- 10 THOU makest us to turn back from the enemy,  
And those, who hate us, get for themselves spoils.  
11 THOU givest us up, as sheep appointed to be slain,  
And Thou scatterest us, among the heathen.  
12 THOU sellest Thy people for nought,  
And dost not enrich Thyself by the price of them.  
13 THOU makest us a reproach unto our neighbours—  
A scorn and derision to those around us.  
14 THOU makest us a by-word among the nations—  
A laughing-stock unto the gentiles.
- 15 All the day long is mine ignominy before me,  
And the shame of my face covereth me;  
16 Because of the voice of the reviler, and blasphemers—  
Because of the presence of the enemy, and avenger. *see 6:1*
- 17 All this is come upon us, yet do we not forget Thee,  
Nor deal falsely against Thy covenant.  
18 Our hearts are not turned back,  
Nor do our steps swerve from Thy path;  
19 Although Thou crush us, *3:1*  
And make our dwelling the haunt of hyenas,  
And cover us with the shadow of death.  
20 If we forget the Name of our God,  
And spread forth our hands unto a strange god,

10 *get for &c.*—i. e. plunder us.

11 *sheep appointed &c.*—Heb. *sheep for food*. i. e. sheep destined to be eaten.

12 *Thou sellest &c.*—i. e. Thou treatest Thy people as utterly worthless, suffering them to be led away captive by their enemies.

— *for nought*—Heb. *for no substance*.

— *enrich Thyself*—Heb. *multiply* (Thy wealth).

14 *a laughing-stock*—Heb. *a shak-*

*ing of the head*.

19 *crush us, and make our dwellings*—Heb. *crush us into*. See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

— *the haunt of &c.*—i. e. so entirely deserted by man as to become the abodes of the wildest animals. Compare the threatened desolation of Babylon (Isai. xiii. 19—22).

— *shadow &c.*—See Ps. xxiii. 4. Note 1.

20 *spread forth our hands*—in prayer. Compare cxi.iii. 6.

- 21 Will not God search this out?  
For He knoweth the secrets of the heart.
- 22 Truly, for Thy sake, are we slain all the day long;  
We are accounted, as sheep appointed for slaughter.
- 23 Arise, why sleepest Thou, O Lord?  
Awake, reject us not for ever!
- 24 Why hidest Thou Thy face—  
Why forgettest Thou our affliction, and our oppression?
- 25 For our spirit is bowed down to the dust,  
Our body cleaveth unto the ground.
- 26 Stand up, and be our help,  
Deliver us, for Thy loving-kindness' sake.

## PSALM XLV.

- 1 MY heart is overflowing with a goodly theme;  
I will recite my song, made in honour of the King.  
May my tongue be as the pen of a skilful scribe!
- 2 Thou art beautiful, beyond the sons of men;  
Grace is diffused upon Thy lips;  
Therefore hath God blessed Thee for ever.
- 3 Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty Warrior!  
Gird on Thy splendour and Thy majesty.

## XLV.

This Psalm is prophetic of the future triumphs of the Messiah's kingdom. It also describes in glowing language, borrowed from the manners of an eastern court, the nuptial festival of the King. The bride is a type of the Church of Christ. Compare Revel. xix.

1 *goodly theme*—Heb. *a good matter*.  
— *my song, made in honour of*—  
Heb. *my works upon*.

2 *beautiful*—In ver. 7. this charac-

teristic is shown to be moral excellency.

2 *Grace &c.*—This refers to the divine power of the Messiah's teaching, and to the extraordinary effect produced upon His hearers. "And all bare him witness, and wondered at the *gracious words* which proceeded out of his mouth." Luke iv. 22. "The officers answered, Never man *spake* like this man." John vii. 46.

3 *Thy splendour &c.*—Compare Ps. xciii. 1. and civ. 1.

- 4 And in Thy majesty, ride on and prosper <sup>965</sup>  
 In the cause of truth, meekness and righteousness;  
 And let Thy right hand teach Thee dreadful deeds.
- 5 THINE arrows are sharp,  
 They are in the hearts of the King's enemies!  
 The nations fall beneath Thee!
- 6 Thy throne, O God! is for ever and ever; <sup>658</sup>  
 The sceptre of Thy kingdom is a sceptre of rectitude.
- 7 Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity,  
 Therefore hath God, Thy God, anointed Thee  
 With the oil of gladness, above Thy fellow-kings.
- 8 Myrrh, aloes, and cassia perfume all Thy garments,  
 Brought from Armenian palaces of ivory, they gladden Thee.
- 9 With Thy precious treasures, come the daughters of kings;  
 At Thy right hand standeth the queen-consort,  
 Arrayed in gold of Ophir.
- 10 Hearken, O daughter! observe, and incline thine ear,  
 Forget thine own people, and thy father's house;

4 *teach Thee*—i. e. enable Thee to achieve.

5 *They are in*—Heb. (Thine arrows are) in.

6 *O God*—The Messiah is here addressed as God. "His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, &c." Isai. ix. 6.

7 *God, Thy God*—Jesus saith unto her "—I ascend unto my Father and your Father, and to my God and your God." Joh. xx. 17.

— *above Thy fellow-kings*—"And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." Rev. xix. 16.

8 *Myrrh, aloes &c.*—Of these plants the aloe, at least, was not a native of Palestine.

— *perfume all Thy garments*—Heb. (are) *all Thy garments*. "Who

is this that cometh out of the wilderness like pillars of smoke, perfumed with myrrh and frankincense, with all powders of the merchant?" Song of Solomon iii. 6.

9 *brought from*—Heb. *out of*. Compare Ps. vii. 5. Notes 1 and 2.

— *palaces of ivory*—i. e. palaces richly adorned with ivory.

9 *With Thy precious treasures, come*.—Heb. *With Thy precious things (come)*. i. e. With the costly offerings made to Thee, come &c. Captive women graced the court of a conqueror. Compare ver. 12.

— *Arrayed in*—Heb. *in*. See ver. 13.

— *gold of Ophir*—The distant lands, Ophir and Arminia, are probably named, not only to point out the fine quality of the gold and ivory possessed by the King, but to show the great extent of the Messiah's dominion.



- 11 So shall the King be enamoured of thy beauty;  
Because He is thy Lord, bow down before Him.
- 12 The daughter of Tyre cometh with presents;  
The wealthiest of her nation propitiate thy favour.
- 13 The king's daughter, all-glorious, is within the palace;  
Her raiment is embroidered with gold.
- 14 In robes of needle-work, she is conducted unto the King;  
The virgins in her train,  
Her companions, are brought unto Thee.
- 15 They are conducted with joy and exultation;  
They enter into the palace of the King.
- 16 "In the place of Thy fathers, Thou shalt have children;  
"Thou shalt make them princes over all lands.
- 17 "I will cause Thy Name to be remembered,  
"Through all generations;  
"Therefore shall the nations praise Thee,  
"For ever and ever."

10 *O daughter*—Upon this appellation consult Ps. xxxiv. 11. Note 1.

— *thy father's*—thy royal father's. See ver. 13.

11 *enamoured of thy beauty*—i. e. delighted with thine excellency. See ver. 2. Note 1. "Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for it... that He might present it to Himself a glorious church not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Ephes. v. 25, 27.

12 *daughter of Tyre*—i. e. Tyre. Compare cxxxvii. 8.

12 *propitiate thy favour*—Heb. *soften thy countenance*.

13 *The king's daughter*—i. e. the queen-consort. See ver. 9.

— *within the palace*—Heb. *within* i. e. in the inner chambers, the apartments appropriated to women.

— *is embroidered &c.*—Heb. *is of embroidery of gold*.

16 — This and the following verse contain God's promise of future and perpetual dominion to the Messiah. Compare Ps. lxxii. 17.

— *children*—The whole Christian race is the fruit of this mystical union of Christ with His church.

## PSALM XLVI.

- 1 GOD is unto us refuge and strength—  
In trouble, a help most readily found!
- 2 Therefore let us not fear, when the earth rocketh to and fro—  
When the mountains quake, in the midst of the sea—
- 3 When its waters rage and boil—  
When the mountains tremble, by reason of its swelling!
- 4 As a river, do His streams gladden the city of God,  
The holy dwelling-place of the Most High! *as 16:2*
- 5 God is in the midst of her! She shall never be moved!  
God shall help her, before the dawn of morning!
- 6 Nations rage, kingdoms totter!  
He uttereth His voice; the earth melteth away!
- 7 JEHOVAH, God of Hosts, is with us!  
A tower of refuge unto us is the God of Jacob!
- 8 Come ye, behold the doings of JEHOVAH—  
The desolations, which He hath wrought in the earth!

## XLVI.

2 *when the earth &c.*—In this and the following verse, earthquakes and storms, attended by inroads of the sea, represent the violence and might of an invading army.

4 *As a river*—i. e. with an abundant supply of water. Compare Ps. LXXXVIII. 15, and cv. 41. The promised land is described (Deut. xi. 11.) as “a land of hills and valleys that drinketh water of the rain of heaven.” This particularly applies to the hill country in which Jerusalem was situated. Egypt, the country from which the Israelites came out, was watered solely by the Nile, and, to procure from it a due supply was, in many districts, a work of great labour.

— *His streams*—Heb. *His canals*

*or rivulets*—i. e. the rains descending from the heavens. See Ps. Lxv. 9. “Who hath divided a water-course for the overflowing of waters? or a way for the lightning of thunder; to cause it to rain on the earth?” Job xxxviii. 25, 26.

5 *before the dawn of morning*—i. e. with the utmost readiness and alacrity. The expression is borrowed from the conduct of a person who, in his anxiety to accomplish a favourite object, engages in it earlier than men ordinarily would. “I spake unto you, rising up early and speaking, but ye heard not.” Jer. vii. 13. “I have even sent unto you all my servants the prophets, daily rising up early and sending them.” Jer. vii. 25.

6 *He uttereth &c.*—i. e. He thunders.

- 9 **HE** maketh wars to cease, unto the ends of the earth!  
**HE** breaketh in pieces the bow,  
 And **HE** cutteth the spear asunder;  
 The chariots **HE** burneth with fire!
- 10 "Let Me alone, and ye shall know that I am God!  
 "I will be exalted among the nations,  
 "I will be exalted throughout the earth!"
- 11 **JEHOVAH**, God of Hosts, is with us!  
 A tower of refuge unto us is the God of Jacob!

## PSALM XLVII.

- 1 O CLAP your hands, all ye people!  
 Shout unto God, with the voice of triumph!
- 2 For **JEHOVAH**, the Most High, is to be revered;  
**HE** is the great King over all the earth!
- 3 **HE** hath subdued the people under us,  
 And the nations under our feet.
- 4 **HE** hath chosen for us our inheritance,  
 The pride of Jacob, whom **HE** loveth.
- 5 God goeth up, with a shout—  
**JEHOVAH**, with the sound of the trumpet!

9 *breaketh*—Compare Ps. LXXvi. 3.  
 — *burneth* — "They that dwell in the cities of Israel shall go forth, and shall set on fire and burn the weapons, both the shields, and the bucklers, the bows and the arrows &c." Ezek. xxxix. 9.

10 *Let me alone &c.*—These are the words of God addressed to His chosen people, whose deliverance He undertakes to accomplish solely by His own power. "*Let me alone*, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven: and I will make of thee a nation mightier and greater than they." Deut. ix. 14.

## XLVII.

4 *The pride &c.*—The land, given to the Israelites, they justly regarded as "the glory of all lands," not only as being a land "flowing with milk and honey," but as being the place of God's especial presence, and therefore "the excellency of their strength."

— *Jacob*—i. e. the people of Israel.

5 *God goeth up*—This alludes to the carrying of the ark of God in procession. "So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet." 2 Sam. vi. 15.

- 6 Hymn unto God, hymn ye,  
Hymn unto our King, hymn ye,  
7 For God is King of all the earth!  
Hymn ye songs of praise!  
8 God reigneth over the heathen;  
God sitteth enthroned upon His holy seat.  
9 The princes of the nations are gathered together,  
And the people of the God of Abraham!  
For the defenders of the land belong unto God;  
He is greatly exalted!

## PSALM XLVIII.

- 1 GREAT is JEHOVAH, and highly to be praised,  
In the city of our God—upon His holy mountain!  
2 Beautiful in its height—  
The joy of the whole earth, is Mount Sion!  
Upon the northern side of it,  
Is the city of the great King.  
3 God is in her citadels!  
He hath made Himself known as a tower of refuge!  
4 For behold, the kings assembled,  
They moved on together;  
5 They looked upon us, and they were confounded;  
They were dismayed, they fled affrighted!

9 *defenders*—Compare Hosea iv.  
18.  
— *belong unto God*—by devoting  
themselves to His service.  
— *exalted*—i. e. above all gods.  
See Ps. xcvi. 9.

## XLVIII.

2 *beautiful* &c.—“Is this the city  
that men call *The perfection of  
beauty, The joy of the whole earth?*”  
Lam. ii. 15. See also Ps. l. 2.  
— *the city* &c.—i. e. Jerusalem.

2 *King*—i. e. Jehovah. “Is not  
*the Lord* in Zion? is not *her king* in  
her? Jer. viii. 19.

4 *moved on*—to the field of battle.

5 *looked upon us*—i. e. faced us in  
battle array. “Jehoash king of Israel  
went up; and he and Amaziah king  
of Judah *looked one another in the  
face* at Bethshemesh, and Judah was  
put to the worse.” 2 Kings xiv. 11.  
“King Josiah went against him;  
and he slew him at Megiddo, *when  
he had seen him.*” 2 Kings xxiii. 29.

- 6 Then did trembling seize upon them—  
Pangs, as of a woman in travail—
- 7 As when with a stormy wind,  
Thou breakest in pieces the ships of Tarshish.
- 8 As we have heard, so have we seen,  
In the city of JEHOVAH, God of hosts—  
In the city of our God!  
God establisheth her for ever!
- 9 We call to mind Thy loving-kindness, O God!  
In the midst of Thy temple.
- 10 As doth Thy Name, O God!  
So doth Thy praise extend, unto the ends of the earth!  
Thy right hand is filled with justice!
- 11 Mount Sion rejoiceth—  
The daughters of Judah exult, because of Thy judgments!
- 12 Go round Sion, and walk about her;  
Count her towers;
- 13 Observe her bulwarks;  
Survey her citadels;  
That ye may tell of them to the next generation.
- 14 Truly, this God is our God for ever and ever;  
He shall be our guide until death!

7 *As &c.*—i. e. such trembling as seizes upon mariners in a tempest.

— *stormy wind*—Heb. *east wind*. This in the Mediterranean sea is the most tempestuous wind. "Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters: the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas." Ezek. xxvii. 26.

— *ships of Tarshish*—These were probably Phœnician ships trading with Spain. For so long a voyage, it was necessary that these ships should

be unusually strong, which seems to be the reason of their being mentioned here.

8 *heard*—related by our fathers.

10 *As doth &c.*—Compare cxxxviii. 2. Notes 1, 2.

11 *The daughters of Judah*—i. e. the cities of Judah.

— *Thy judgments*—executed upon the enemies of Thy people.

12 *Go round &c.*—(saying) Go round &c.

## PSALM XLIX.

- 1 HEAR this, all ye nations!  
 Give ear, all ye inhabitants of the world!  
 2 Both men of low, and men of high degree,  
 Rich and poor together. *ready*  
 3 My mouth shall speak wisdom,  
 And the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.  
 4 I will incline mine ear unto parables;  
 I will make known my dark sayings with the harp.  
 5 Wherefore should I fear in the days of calamity,  
 When the wickedness of my supplanters hemmeth me in;  
 6 Who rely upon their substance,  
 And glory in the abundance of their riches?  
 7 No man can by any means redeem his brother,  
 Nor give unto God a ransom for him;  
 8 So that he should live on for ever,  
 And not see corruption.  
 9 For costly is the redemption of their life,  
 Therefore doth he leave it alone for ever.  
 10 For he seeth that wise men die;  
 With the simple and brutish, do they perish,  
 And leave their substance unto others.  
 11 Their inward thoughts are,  
 That their houses will stand for ever,  
 And their dwelling-places to all generations;  
 They call their lands by their own names.

## XLIX.

1 *this*—i. e. the instruction conveyed in the following verses.

2 *men of low &c.*—Heb. *sons of men (low) and sons of men (high)*.

4 *I will incline &c.*—i. e. I will listen to the sage instructions of former ages. Compare Ps. Lxxviii. 1—4.

— *make known*—Heb. *open*.

— *dark sayings*—dark, as forming a didactic composition, conveyed in

parabolic or enigmatical language.

5 *supplanters*—See Gen. xxvii. 36. and marginal reading.

7 *redeem*—i. e. from death.

9 *their life*—i. e. the lives of men.

10 *it*—i. e. the attempt to redeem &c.

— *wise men*—i. e. those who are possessed of the greatest worldly wisdom.

11 *lands &c.*—Compare Gen. iv. 17.

- 12 Yet man, who is in honour, abideth not;  
He is like unto the beasts, which perish.
- 13 This is their course, this, their confidence;  
And those, who come after them, approve their sayings.
- 14 They are appointed for the grave, as sheep;  
Death shall feed upon them!  
Yea, early shall the upright trample on them;  
And their form shall waste away, *as the grass of the field*  
The grave shall be their dwelling-place.
- 15 For God will redeem my life;  
Truly, He will take me out of the power of the grave.
- 16 Be not thou afraid, when a man becometh rich—  
When the glory of his house is increased.
- 17 For, at his death, he will carry nothing away,  
Nor will his glory descend after him.
- 18 Though he congratulate himself upon his prosperous life—  
Yea, though men praise thee, when thou indulgest thyself; *Thou shalt not be troubled*
- 19 Thou shalt go unto the generation of their fathers,  
Who will never see the light!
- 20 Man, who is in honour, but without understanding,  
Is like unto the beasts, which perish.

12 *abideth not*.—i. e. continueth not in life.

13 *This &c.*—See ver. 11.

— *those, who &c.*—i. e. *those who* survive and inherit their substance follow the same course with them. See ver. 10.

14 *as sheep*—for the slaughter.

— *early &c.*—i. e. soon shall the righteous tread upon the sepulchres

of the worldly wise. Compare ver. 10. and Note 2.

15 *redeem my life*—The Psalmist will enjoy a long and prosperous life, while the wicked shall not “live out half their days.” Compare Ps. xvi. 10, 11. Ps. lv. 23.

18 *men*—i. e. parasites and flatterers.

— *indulgest thyself*—in unrestrained luxury.

## PSALM L.

- 1 THE God of gods, JEHOVAH, speaketh,  
And calleth the earth,  
From the east and from the west !
- 2 From Sion, perfect in beauty,  
God shineth forth !
- 3 Our God cometh, and keepeth not silence,  
A fire devoureth before Him,  
And around Him a tempest rageth !
- 4 HE calleth unto the heavens above,<sup>740</sup>  
And unto the earth, that He may judge His people :
- 5 " Gather My worshippers unto Me, *gather them from every side*  
" Those who have made a covenant with Me, by sacrifice.
- 6 " And let the heavens declare His righteousness,  
" When God is the Judge !
- 7 " Hear, O My people ! and I will speak—  
" O Israel ! and I will warn thee.  
" I am God, Thy God !
- 8 " I do not reprove thee, concerning thy sacrifices ;  
" For thy burnt-offerings are ever before Me.
- 9 " I will take no bullock out of thy house,  
" Nor he-goats out of thy folds ;

L.

1 *the earth*—i. e. the inhabitants of the earth.

— *From the east, &c.*—Heb. *From the rising of the sun to the place of his going down.*

2 *beauty*—"the city that men call the perfection of beauty." Lam. ii. 15. See also Ps. xlviii. 2.

3 *keepeth not silence*—God's approach is manifested by thunders. This negative form of expression is employed to give the greater force and emphasis. See Ps. cxix. 85. For the circumstances under which the Law was given from mount Sinai,

consult Exod. xix. and Heb. xii. 18.

4 *calleth*—that they may be witnesses of the judgment which Jehovah is about to pass upon His people.

— *the heavens above*—i. e. the angels.

— *the earth*—i. e. men.

5 *My worshippers*—i. e. those who profess the true religion.

6 *the heavens*—i. e. the angels assembled to witness the dealings of God with his people. See ver. 4.

7 *Thy God*—who "brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." Exod. xx. 2.



- 10 "For all the beasts of the forest are Mine,  
 "And the cattle upon a thousand hills.  
 11 "I know every bird of the mountains,  
 "And the wild beasts of the field are before Me.  
 12 "If I be hungry, I will not tell thee;  
 "For the world and all, which it containeth, are Mine!  
 13 "Shall I eat the flesh of bulls,  
 "And drink the blood of goats?  
 14 "Offer unto God the sacrifice of praise,  
 "And fulfil thy vows unto the Most High;  
 15 "And call upon Me in the day of trouble,  
 "I will rescue thee, and thou shalt glorify Me."  
 16 But unto the wicked man God saith:  
 "Wherefore shouldest thou rehearse My statutes,  
 "And profess with thy mouth My covenant,  
 17 "While thou hatest correction,  
 "And castest My words behind thee?  
 18 "When thou seest a thief, thou art pleased with him;  
 "And thou hast thy portion with adulterers.  
 19 "Thou lettest loose thy mouth to wickedness,  
 "And thy tongue weaveth deceits.  
 20 "Thou sittest, and speakest against thy brother,  
 "And dost slander thine own mother's son.  
 21 "These things hast thou done, and I have been silent;  
 "Thou thinkest that I am altogether like thyself!  
 "I will reprove thee, and array them before thine eyes.

11 *before me*—Heb. *with Me*.

15 *shalt glorify Me*—i. e. shalt have cause for glorifying Me.

16 *profess with thy mouth*—Heb. *take upon thy mouth*.

17 *castest My words behind thee*—i. e. disregardest My words.

18 *pleased with him*—i. e. art willing to associate with him.

20 *Thou sittest*—i. e. in the most public places of resort, which were usually the gates of the city. See Ps. Lxix. 12.

— *thine own mother's son*—To understand the force of this expression, it is necessary to bear in mind that polygamy was allowed amongst the Israelites. Those who were born to the same father were all brethren, but a yet more intimate relationship subsisted between those who had the same mother as well as the same father.

21 *them*—i. e. the things which thou hast done.

- 22 "Now consider this, ye who forget God!  
 "Lest I tear you in pieces, and there be no deliverer.  
 23 "He, who offereth the sacrifice of <sup>praise</sup>, honoureth Me;  
 "And to him, who taketh heed unto his way,  
 "Will I show the salvation of God."

## PSALM LI.

- 1 BE gracious unto me, O God!  
 According to Thy loving-kindness;  
 According to the abundance of Thy mercies,  
 Blot out my transgressions.  
 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity,  
 And cleanse me from my sin.  
 3 For I acknowledge my transgressions,  
 And my sin is continually before me.  
 4 Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned;  
 Yea, I have done that which is evil in Thy sight;  
 Therefore Thou art just in Thy sentence—  
 Thou art clear in Thy judgment.  
 5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
 Yea, in sin did my mother conceive me.  
 6 Behold, Thou lovest truth in the inmost heart;  
 And, in my secret soul, dost thou teach me wisdom.  
 7 Sprinkle me with hyssop, that I may be clean,  
 Wash me, that I may be whiter than snow.

## LI.

4 *Against Thee, Thee only*,—i. e. The heinousness of my guilt consists, *most especially*, in my having acted in open defiance of the sacred laws and commandments of my merciful and almighty benefactor.

— *clear*—i. e. canst not in any way be charged with undue severity.

— *judgment*—For this sentence and judgment upon David and his family, see 2 Sam. xii. 10, &c.

6 *wisdom*—i. e. holiness.

7 *hyssop*—Hyssop was used in the purifying of a leper (Levit. xiv. 6, 7). The Psalmist adopts this language when praying that he may be cleansed from his moral defilement. So the Apostle—"having our hearts *sprinkled* from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Heb. x. 22.

— *Wash me &c.*—who am stained as it were with the blood of Uriah.

- 8 Grant that I may hear glad and joyful tidings,  
That the bones, which Thou hast crushed, may exult.
- 9 Hide Thy face from my sins,  
And blot out all mine iniquities.
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O God!  
And renew within me a stedfast spirit.
- 11 Cast me not away from Thy presence,  
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
- 12 Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,  
And may a willing spirit uphold me!
- 13 Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways,  
And sinners shall be converted unto Thee.
- 14 Deliver me from blood-guiltiness, O God!  
O God of my salvation!  
My tongue shall sing of Thy goodness!
- 15 O Lord! open Thou my lips,  
And my mouth shall proclaim Thy praise.
- 16 Truly, Thou delightest not in sacrifice, else would I give it;  
In burnt-offering Thou hast no pleasure.
- 17 The sacrifices, which please God, are a broken spirit,  
A heart broken and contrite, O God! Thou wilt not despise.

See ver. 14. "your hands are full of blood; wash ye &c."—"though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow &c." Isai. i. 15, 16. 18.

8 *glad and joyful tidings*—Heb. gladness and joy.

— *tidings*—i. e. of pardon.

— *That the bones*—i. e. That I who, under a sense of guilt, am broken-hearted may receive comfort. Compare Ps. xxxii. 3.

10 *a stedfast spirit*—i. e. a mind steady in following the path of duty.

11 *Thy Holy Spirit*—Compare Ps. cxliii. 10.

12 *a willing spirit*—i. e. a spirit devoted to the service of Jehovah.

13 *Thy ways*—i. e. of mercy, which I have in my own person experienced. See Ps. cxxx. 4, 7.

15 *open Thou &c.*—i. e. enable me to raise the voice of praise and thanksgiving, to which my lips have hitherto been closed, by a conviction of my guilt and by my despair of obtaining pardon.

16 *give*—Compare 2 Sam. xxiv. 24. where the generous spirit of David, in this respect, is remarkably exhibited. See also 2 Sam. xxiii. 16.

17 *which please God*—Heb. of God.

- 18 Deal kindly, of Thy favour, unto Sion,  
Build Thou the walls of Jerusalem!  
19 Then shalt Thou delight <sup>in</sup> in right sacrifices—  
In perfect burnt-offerings;  
Then shall bullocks be offered upon Thine altar.

## PSALM LII.

- 1 WHY dost thou glory in wickedness, thou mighty man?  
The loving-kindness of God endureth ever.  
2 Thou devisest mischief, <sup>v. 9, 25, 9</sup>  
Thy tongue is like a sharpened razor,  
Thou dost practise deceit.  
3 Thou lovest wickedness more than goodness—  
Falsehood more than speaking truth.  
4 Thou lovest all destructive words—  
The deceitful tongue.  
5 But God shall utterly destroy thee,  
HE shall lay hold on thee, and tear thee from thy tent,  
Yea, He shall root thee out of the land of the living.  
6 The righteous shall see it, and feel reverence,  
And they shall hold him in derision:  
7 "Behold, the man,  
"Who made not God his defence, <sup>700 1000</sup>

18 *Deal &c.*—The preceding verses contain a penitential Psalm of David. This and the following verse appear to have been added during the captivity.

19 *right—perfect*—i. e. in all respects conformable to the ordinances of the Mosaic Ritual.

## LII.

1 *Why dost thou glory &c.*—i. c.

Why do you presumptuously anticipate success in your wicked designs against me, from whom the favour of God is never for an instant withdrawn?

1 *ever*—Heb. *all the day*.

4 *destructive*—Heb. *devouring*.

6 *feel reverence*—i. e. in the punishment of this wicked man, find additional reason to reverence God, and to observe His righteous laws.

"But trusted in the abundance of his riches—

"Who was strong in his mischief!

8 But as for me, as a green olive tree,

I am planted in the House of God;

I put my trust in the loving-kindness of God,

For ever and ever.

9 I will praise Thee for ever, because Thou hast done this, *Heb.*

And wait in confidence upon Thy Name—for it is right—

In the presence of Thy pious worshippers.

### PSALM LIII.

1 THE impious say in their heart: "There is no God."

They are corrupt and abominable in their iniquity;

There is not one, who acteth rightly.

2 God looketh down from heaven

Upon the children of men,

To see if there be any, who behave wisely—

Who seek after God.

3 All have turned back together; they are deeply corrupted;

There is not one, who acteth rightly; there is not even one!

4 Shall not the workers of iniquity be punished,

Who devour My people, as their food—

Who call not upon God?

7 *in his mischief*.—This probably refers to the attempts made by Doeg (1 Sam. xxii.) to ingratiate himself with Saul, by maliciously injuring David.

8 *green*—i. e. flourishing. Compare Ps. i. 3.

— *I am planted in*—Heb. (I am) in. See Ps. xcii. 12, 13.

9 *done this*—i. e. inflicted deserved punishment upon the calumniator. See v. 6.

— *wait in confidence &c.*—i. e. show openly my full reliance upon Thy

power and goodness. Compare Ps. xx. 2.

### LIII.

1 *impious*—Heb. *fool*. Folly is a term employed, in Hebrew, to signify the greatest possible degree of guilt.

3 *deeply corrupted*—Heb. *become putrid*.

4 *Shall not &c.?*—This, in Hebrew, is the strongest mode of asserting that such will be the case.

— *be punished*—Heb. *know or experience* (punishment).

— *as*—Heb. *they devour*.

5 Then shall those, who had no fear, be greatly afraid,  
For God will scatter the bones of those, who besiege thee.  
Thou shalt put them to shame, for God hath rejected them.

6 O that from out of Sion  
Salvation might come unto Israel!

When God shall bring back His captive people,  
Jacob shall rejoice—Israel shall be glad!

### PSALM LIV.

1 O God! save me through Thy Name,  
And through Thy power maintain my cause.

2 O God! hear my prayer,  
Give ear unto the words of my mouth.

3 For the proud rise up against me,  
And the violent seek my life,  
They set not God before their eyes!

4 Behold, God is my helper;  
The Lord is the upholder of my life.

5 May their mischief return upon those, who watch me! *ps. lvi.*  
In Thy faithfulness, do Thou destroy them.

5 *Then*—i. e. When the threat of the preceding verse shall be accomplished.

— *thee*—Jerusalem.

6 *O that &c.*—Heb. *Who will give &c.*

— *out of Sion*—peculiarly the place of God's residence on earth.

— *His captive people*—Heb. *the captivity of His people*. "Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they

*sing*: for they shall see eye to eye, when the LORD shall bring again Zion." Isai. l.ii. 8.

### LIV.

1 *Name*—Compare Ps. xx. 2. Note.

3 Compare Ps. lxxxvi. 14.

5 *watch me*—See Ps. v. 8. Note 2.

— *their mischief*—Heb. *the evil*—i. e. the very evil which they devised against me. Compare Ps. vii. 16.

- 6 With a willing mind, will I sacrifice unto Thee;  
 I will praise Thy Name, O JEHOVAH! for it is right. *Heb.*  
 7 For He delivereth me from all trouble,  
 And mine eye beholdeth the fall of mine enemies.

## PSALM LV.

- 1 GIVE ear, O God! unto my prayer,  
 And turn not Thyself away from my supplication.  
 2 Attend unto me, and hear me.  
 In my complaining I pace to and fro, and am agitated,  
 3 Because of the clamour of the enemy—  
 By reason of the harassing of the wicked.  
 For they bring down upon me calamity,  
 And in anger set themselves against me.  
 4 My heart travaileth within me,  
 And the terrors of death fall upon me.  
 5 There come upon me fear and trembling,  
 And horror overwhelmeth me.  
 6 I say: "O that I had wings, as the dove!  
 "I would fly away, and I would dwell—  
 7 "Lo, I would wander far away,  
 "And make my abode, in the desert.  
 8 "I would hasten mine escape  
 "From the rushing whirlwind—from the tempest."  
 9 Destroy, O Lord!—distract their counsels;  
 For I see violence and strife in the city.

7 *beholdeth the fall of*—Heb. *look-eth with satisfaction upon*.

## LV.

4 *travaileth*—Compare Ps. xxix. 8, 9.

6 *I would fly away &c.*—i. e. I should prefer the most dreary solitude to the habitations of these my persecutors.

8 *rushing whirlwind &c.*—Under these images the Psalmist represents

the violence and fury of his enemies. "For thou hast been a strength to the poor, a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat, when the blast of the terrible ones is as a storm against the wall." Isai. xxv. 4.

9 *distract their counsels*—Heb. *divide their tongues*—i. e. cause them to give conflicting opinions.

- 10 By day and night, there go round upon her walls,  
Yea, there are in the midst of her iniquity and mischief.
- 11 Wickedness is within her, *on judgment V. 9*  
Wrong and fraud depart not from her streets.
- 12 Truly, it is not an enemy, who revileth me,  
Or I could bear it;  
It is not one hating me, who exalteth himself against me,  
Or I would hide myself from him;
- 13 But thou, a man whom I ranked with myself—  
My familiar friend!
- 14 We held sweet companionship together, *9*  
We walked together into the house of God, with the throng!
- 15 May death come suddenly upon them,  
May they go down alive into the grave,  
For wickedness is in their dwellings, and in their breasts!
- 16 As for me, I call upon God,  
And JEHOVAH saveth me!
- 17 In the evening, and the morning, and at noonday,  
Do I moan anxiously;  
And He heareth my voice!
- 18 He delivereth me, and placeth me in safety  
From those, who assail me,  
Although many are against me.
- 19 God heareth me,  
Yea, He, who sitteth enthroned from of old, humbleth them—

10 The Psalmist, in this and the following verse, declares that wickedness of every kind pervades every part of the city, and all classes of the people.

12 *hating me*—i. e. openly.

13 *My familiar friend*—Heb. *My friend and mine acquaintance.*

14 —The early part of this verse refers to the intercourse of friends in private life, as the latter does to

their conduct towards each other upon public occasions.

15 *alive*—i. e. not by “the common death of all men.” Numb. xvi. 29.

— *and in their breasts*—Heb. *in the midst of them.*

17 *do I moan anxiously*—Heb. *I am anxious and I moan.*

18 *He delivereth &c.*—Heb. *He delivereth me in peace.* Compare Ps. vii. 5. Notes 1 and 2.



The men who change not their lives,  
And fear not God!

- 20 He putteth forth his hands,  
Against those, who are at peace with him;  
He breaketh his covenant.  
21 The words of his mouth are smoother than butter,  
But war is in his heart;  
His words are softer than oil,  
Yet are they drawn swords.

- 22 Cast upon JEHOVAH thy cares, *Thy life*  
And He will sustain thee; *in 20*  
He will never suffer the righteous man to be moved!  
23 But Thou, O God!  
Wilt bring them down into the pit of corruption;  
Blood-thirsty and deceitful men  
Shall not live out half their days.

But as for me, in Thee do I place my confidence.

## PSALM LVI.

- 1 BE gracious unto me, O God! for man panteth after me,  
All the day long doth he assault, and oppress me.  
2 Those, who watch me, pant all the day long, *me ✓*  
Yea, many are those, who proudly assault me.  
3 In the day when I am afraid,  
I place my confidence in Thee.

19 *The men who change not their lives*—Heb. *to whom are no changes*.

20 *He*—i. e. the same person who was spoken of in vv. 12—14.

23 *them*—i. e. the blood-thirsty and deceitful.

23 *live out &c.*—Compare ver. 15.

## LVI.

1 *panteth after me*—Heb. *draweth in the air* (thus exhibiting an intense desire to destroy) *me*.

4 In God I make my boast, even in His promise.

In God I place my confidence, I fear not!

What can flesh do unto me?

5 All the day long, they wrest my words,

All their devices are for my hurt.

6 They assemble, they hide themselves,

They observe my footsteps,

While they lie in wait for my life.

7 Shall they escape after their wickedness?

O God! bring down the people in Thy wrath!

8 Do Thou take account of my wanderings,

Lay up my tears in Thy bottle.

Are they not written in Thy book?

9 In the day when I call upon Thee,

Shall mine enemies be turned back;

This I know, because God is for me.

10 In God I make my boast, even in His promise!

In JEHOVAH I make my boast, even in His promise!

11 In God I place my confidence, I fear not!

What can man do unto me?

12 My vows unto Thee, O God! are upon me;

I will render unto Thee thanksgivings.

4 *flesh*—i. e. feeble man. See ver. 11.

5 *wrest*—Heb. *mould or fashion*—  
i. e. to their own wicked purposes.  
— *for my hurt*—Heb. *against me*  
*for evil*.

7 *Shall they escape*—Heb. *Is there*  
*escape for them?*—The meaning is  
that they assuredly will not escape  
because of their wickedness.

8 *Lay up &c.*—i. e. Suffer not my  
tears to flow, unheeded by Thee.

— *wanderings*—to which I am  
obliged to submit, that I may avoid

my pursuers. See ver. 1.

8 *bottle*—Heb. *skin*. Skins were  
used for holding liquids.

— *Are they not &c.?*—i. e. Thou  
dost undoubtedly take account of all  
my sorrows.

12 *My vows unto thee*—Heb. *Thy*  
*vows*.

— *upon me*—i. e. God having com-  
plied with the prayer of the Psalmist,  
he here acknowledges his obligations,  
in return for the mercies thus vouch-  
safed unto him.

- 13 For Thou hast delivered me from death;  
 Yea, Thou hast kept my feet from being overthrown,  
 That I may walk before God, in the light of the living.

## PSALM LVII.

- 1 BE gracious unto me, O God! be gracious unto me,  
 For with Thee do I take refuge;  
 Even under the shadow of Thy wings do I take refuge,  
 Until their mischief pass away.

- 2 I call upon God, the Most High!—  
 Upon God, who performeth all things for me.  
 3 HE will send from heaven, and save me,  
 HE will bring to shame him, who panteth after me;  
 God will send forth His loving-kindness and His truth.

- 4 My life is among lions,  
 I lie down to rest among men of fiery spirit.  
 Their teeth are spears and arrows,  
 And their tongue is a sharp sword.

- 5 Be Thou exalted above the heavens, O God!—  
 Thy glory, above all the earth!

13 *Yea, Thou hast &c.*—Heb. *Hast Thou not &c.?*

— *before God*—i. e. under his protection and guardianship.

## LVII.

1 *their mischief*—Heb. *the mischief* (now directed against me by my enemies).

3 *panteth*—See Ps. lvi. 1. Note.

4 *lions*—i. e. men of ferocious disposition.

4 *men of fiery spirit*—Heb. *flaming sons of men*. i. e. violent men urging on my destruction.

— *teeth &c.*—This expression appears to be suggested by the mention of lions in the early part of the verse. Compare Ps. lviii. 6.

5 *above the heavens*—i. e. Mayest Thou be *exceedingly* magnified for relieving me from my distress, and displaying Thy goodness towards me! Compare vv. 2, 3.

6 They prepared a net for my feet,  
 My spirit was bowed down!  
 They digged a pit before me,  
 They are fallen into it!

7 O God! my heart is prepared—  
 My heart is prepared, I will sing and I will hymn!

8 Awake, my soul! awake, O lute and harp!  
 I will awake with the early dawn.

9 I will praise Thee, O Lord! among the nations, *thanks*  
 I will hymn Thee among the people.

10 For Thy loving-kindness is great, unto the heavens,  
 And Thy faithfulness, unto the clouds.

11 Be thou exalted above the heavens, O God!  
 Thy glory, above all the earth!

## PSALM LVIII.

1 DO ye indeed utter righteous judgment, O mighty ones? *judgment*  
 Do ye give sentence with rectitude, O sons of men? *rectitude*

2 Nay, ye contrive wickedness in your hearts,  
 Ye dispense the violence of your hands through the land.

3 The wicked go astray, even from the womb;  
 They err, even from their birth, speaking lies.

4 They have poison, like the poison of a serpent,  
 They are like the deaf adder, which stoppeth her ear—

6 *Myspirit* &c.—i. e. I was brought low by their artifices.

7 *prepared*—to enter upon my devotional exercises.

8 *my soul*—Heb. *my glory* or *mind*.

10 *great* &c.—Compare Ps. ciii. 11.

## LVIII.

2 *contrive*—Heb. *perpetrate*.

— *dispense*—Heb. *weigh out*.

3 *from the womb*—i. e. from the very earliest period of their lives.

— *They err*—i. e. from the paths of rectitude.

— *from their birth*—Heb. *from the belly* (of their mother).

4 *poison*—i. e. under their tongue. Compare Ps. cxl. 3.

— *deaf adder*—a serpent, differing from serpents in general, which, like

- 5 Which listeneth not to the voice of the charmers—  
Of those, most skilled in enchantments.
- 6 Beat out the teeth in their mouths, O God!  
Break the fangs of the lions, O JEHOVAH!
- 7 Let them melt as water, which passeth away;  
When they bend their bow,  
Let their arrows be as though they were pointless.
- 8 As the snail which melteth away, let them perish—  
As the untimely birth of a woman, which seeth not the sun.
- 9 Before your pots feel the fire,  
May a tempest scatter the thorns, the green and the dry!
- 10 The righteous shall rejoice, when he seeth the vengeance;  
He shall wash his feet in the blood of the wicked.
- 11 And men shall say:  
“Truly, there is a reward for the righteous man,  
“Truly, there is a God, who judgeth in the earth!”

other creatures, may be charmed and tamed; and, on this account, an apt similitude for a tongue submitting to no control. “For every kind of *beasts*, and of *birds*, and of *serpents*, and *things in the sea*, is *tamed*, and hath *been tamed of mankind*: but *the tongue* can no man *tame*; it is an *unruly* evil, full of *deadly poison*.” James iii. 7, 8.

6 *teeth*—See Ps. iii. 7. Note 2.

7 *them*—i. e. the wicked. See ver. 3.  
— *as water*—“For we must needs die, and are *as water spilt on the ground*, which cannot be gathered up again.”—2 Sam. xiv. 14.

— *pointless*—Heb. *cut in pieces*.

8 *As the snail &c.*—Allusion is here made to the slimy track which the snail leaves behind it.

— *let them perish*—Heb. *let* (each of them) *depart*.

9 *feel the fire*—Heb. *perceive* (the effect of the lighted thorns).

— *the thorns*—The custom of lighting fires in the open air, in eastern countries, seems to have led to this remarkable proverb. The fuel was sometimes scattered by a whirlwind before it had been used, and thus would strikingly represent the premature fate of the wicked. Brushwood is very extensively employed in the East, where it can be obtained, for those culinary purposes (especially boiling) which require haste. Solomon alludes to these “fires of thorns”. Eccles. vii. 6. Compare Ps. cxviii. 12.

11 *reward*—Heb. *fruit*. “Say ye to the righteous that it shall be well with him; for they shall eat *the fruit of their doings*.” Isai. iii. 10.

## PSALM LIX.

- 1 DELIVER me from mine enemies, O my God!

Defend me from those, who rise up against me. *W. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7*

- 2 Deliver me from the workers of iniquity,

And save me from blood-thirsty men.

- 3 For behold, they lie in wait for my life;

Mighty men are gathered together against me,

Without offence and without fault of mine, O JEHOVAH!

- 4 Without any iniquity of mine,

They run, and make themselves ready.

Awake, and come to meet me, and behold!

- 5 Yea, do Thou, O JEHOVAH-GOD,

God of hosts, the God of Israel!

Awake to punish all the nations;

Show not mercy to any wicked traitors. *And yet thou 30*

- 6 Every evening do they return,

They growl like dogs,

And go round the city.

- 7 Behold, they pour forth evil with their mouths,

Swords are within their lips:

"For who heareth?"

- 8 But Thou, JEHOVAH! laughest at them,

Thou holdest all the nations in derision.

## LIX.

1 *Defend me from*—Heb. *Place me on high above.*

2 *workers*—See Ps. v. 5. Note 2.

4 *ready*—to assault me.

—*Awake &c.*—Heb. *Awake to meet me.* i. e. to assist me. See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

5 *to punish*—Heb. *to visit.* i. e. judicially.

6 *return*—i. e. to their post. See ver. 3.

7 *they pour forth evil with &c.*—

Heb. *they pour forth with &c.* "the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things." Prov. xv. 28.

7 *within their lips*—i. e. Their tongues are swords. Compare Ps. lvii. 4.

—*For who heareth?*—The Psalmist introduces this taunting and triumphant expression of his enemies to show how lightly they regarded his expectation that Jehovah would interpose in his favour. Compare Ps. x. 4, 5, 13.

- 9 O my Strength! unto Thee will I hymn,  
For God is my tower of refuge—  
10 A God of loving-kindness to me.

God will place Himself before me,  
He will make me see the fall of those, who watch me. *229/7*

- 11 Slay them not, lest my people forget;  
Make them wanderers, through Thy might, *229/8*  
And bring them down, O Lord, our Shield!  
12 For the sin of their mouth—for the words of their lips,  
Let them, in their pride, be taken captive;  
Yea, because of the curses and falsehood, which they utter.  
13 Consume them in Thy wrath,  
Consume them that they be no more;  
And let men know that God ruleth over Jacob,  
Even unto the ends of the earth.  
14 For every evening do they return,  
They growl like dogs,  
And go round the city.  
15 Let them wander about for food;  
And let them pass the night, and not be filled.  
16 But as for me, I will sing of Thy strength,  
Yea, sing aloud of Thy loving-kindness every morning,  
Because Thou hast been a tower of refuge for me—  
Even a place to flee unto, in the day of my trouble.

10 *before me*—so as to protect me from harm.

— *to see the fall*—Compare Ps. L. iv.  
7. Note.

11 *forget*—the awful lesson which their punishment was intended to impress upon them, so soon as the divine judgment has been executed.

— *make them wanderers*—and thus let them be, in the eyes of men, monuments of Thine anger, as was Cain. “When thou tillest the ground,

it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength. A fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth.” Gen. iv. 12.

13 *over Jacob*—i. e. especially over the land of Israel.

— *Even unto &c.*—The wrath of God being still found to attend the wicked wheresoever they go, men would be compelled to acknowledge that His power extends over the whole world.

- 17 O my Strength! unto Thee will I hymn,  
 For God is my tower <sup>of</sup> refuge—  
 A God of loving-kindness to me.

## PSALM LX.

- 1 O God! Thou hast rejected us,  
 Thou hast broken in upon us,  
 Thou hast been angry;  
 Mayest Thou restore us!
- 2 Thou hast shaken the land,  
 Thou hast rent it asunder,  
 Repair the breaches thereof, for it tottereth.
- 3 Thou hast made Thy people experience hard things,  
 Thou hast made us drink the wine of trembling.
- 4 Thou hast given to those, who reverence Thee,  
 An ensign to be lifted up, because of Thy truth.
- 5 That Thy beloved ones may be rescued,  
 Save us with Thy right hand, and answer us!

## LX.

This Psalm contains, in repeated succession, the language of expostulation, prayer and triumph.

1 *Thou hast broken &c.*—i. e. Thou hast made a breach in our defences, and thus exposed us to the assaults of our enemies.

2 *rent it asunder*—The effects of political convulsions are here compared with those of an earthquake.

— *Repair*—Heb. *Heal*.

3 *experience*—Heb. *see*.

— *wine of trembling*—The stunning effects of God's heavy judgments incapacitate us from helping ourselves, as entirely as though we were intoxi-

cated.—“Jerusalem, which hath drunk at the hand of the Lord the cup of his fury; thou hast drunken the dregs of the *cup of trembling* and wrung them out.” Isai. li. 17. Compare Jer. xxv. 15, 16.

4 *an ensign*—Allusion is here made to the practice of erecting, in some conspicuous place, an ensign, to serve as a rallying point for a defeated army.

— *To be lifted up*—and thus become the means of reassembling the dispersed Israelites.

— *because of Thy truth*—Heb. *because of truth*. i. e. agreeably to Thy faithful promises.



6 God hath spoken by His holiness!

Triumphantly shall I portion out Shechem,  
And measure the valley of Succoth.

7 Gilcad is mine, and Manasseh is mine,

Ephraim also is the defence of my life,  
Judah is my law-giver.

8 Moab shall hold the basin in which I wash,

To Edom shall I throw my shoes;  
Over Philistia shall I raise the shout of triumph.

9 Who will lead me to the fenced city?

Who will guide me unto Edom?

10 Hast not Thou, O God! rejected us?

Yea Thou, O God! goest not forth with our armies!

11 Give unto us relief from our distress,

For vain is the help of man.

12 Through God shall we do valiantly,

Yea, it is He, who shall tread down our enemies.

6 *spoken by His holiness*—i. e. sworn by Himself, that He will maintain the cause of David. Compare Ps. LXXXIX. 35.

— *Triumphantly shall I portion out*—Heb. *I will exult, I will portion out*.

— *portion out*—as a conquered land.

— *measure*—for the purpose of distributing it amongst my followers.

7 *defence of my life*—Heb. *strength of my head*. i. e. guard of my person. "And Achish said to David, Therefore will I make thee *keeper of mine head* for ever." 1 Sam. xxviii. 2. It seems to be here intimated that the districts mentioned in the text will again hereafter acknowledge the supremacy of Judah.

8 *Moab*—"the Moabites became David's servants." 2 Sam. viii. 2.

— *my shoes*—that he may carry them. To take off the shoes and to wash the feet were offices assigned to slaves. To this custom there is frequent reference in scripture. Thus "whose shoes I am not worthy to bear." Matt. iii. 11, and "the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose." Mark i. 7. Also "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet." Joh. xiii. 14.

9 *Who will lead &c.*—i. e. How earnestly do I desire to engage in an enterprise, of the success of which I have been graciously assured!

11 *relief*—Heb. *help*.

— *help*—Heb. *salvation*.

## PSALM LXI.

- 1 HEAR, my cry, O God!  
Attend unto my prayer.
- 2 From the end of the land I call upon Thee,  
In the faintness of my heart;  
Guide me into the mountain, which is too high for me.  
*Ps. lvi. 1, 2.*
- 3 For Thou art a refuge for me—  
A strong tower against mine enemies. *Ps. xli. 1, 2.*
- 4 Let me sojourn in Thy tabernacle for ever, *Ps. lxxv. 15, 16.*  
Let me find refuge <sup>my</sup> under cover of Thy wings.
- 5 For Thou, O God! hearest my vows,  
Thou givest me the heritage of those, who reverence Thy Name.
- 6 O prolong the days of the king,  
Let his years be as many generations.
- 7 Let him sit enthroned for ever, before God;  
Let Thy loving-kindness and truth preserve him!
- 8 So will I hymn Thy Name, for ever,  
And perform my vows, day by day.

## LXI.

<sup>2</sup> *too high for me*—so lofty that, in my present weak condition, I cannot reach the summit of it without Thine assistance. David adopts this language to express the difficulties which he had to encounter, in returning to Mount Zion during Absalom's rebellion.

<sup>5</sup> *givest &c.*—i. e. givest me possession of the kingdom of Israel. Compare Ps. xxi. 2, 3, 4.

<sup>6</sup> *O prolong*—Heb. *add days unto.*

<sup>7</sup> *before God*—i. e. under His protection and guardianship. Compare Ps. lvi. 13.

## PSALM LXII.

- 1 TRULY, upon God doth my soul <sup>rest</sup> repose,  
From Him is my salvation.
- 2 Truly, He is my rock, and my salvation, 18:2  
He is my tower of refuge;  
I shall not be greatly moved!
- 3 How long will ye assault a man?  
How long will ye all crush him,  
As though he were a leaning wall—  
A fence nearly thrust down?
- 4 Truly, they consult to thrust him down from his height,  
They delight in falsehood;  
With their mouth they bless,  
But in their heart they curse.
- 5 Truly, upon God doth my soul repose;  
For from Him is mine expectation.
- 6 Truly He is my rock, and my salvation,  
He is my tower of refuge;  
I shall not be moved!
- 7 With God is my salvation and my glory;  
My strong rock, my refuge is in God. 27 18:2
- 8 Place your confidence in Him, at all times, ye people!  
Pour out your hearts before Him!  
God is our refuge!
- 9 Truly, men of low degree are vanity,  
Men of high degree are a deceitful hope; 28:2  
They, all together, are lighter in the scales than vanity!

## LXII.

1 doth my soul repose—Heb. (is)  
the silent waiting of my soul.

3 As though he were &c.—i. e. with  
the utmost violence, and in a confi-

dent expectation of at once overthrow-  
ing him.

4 in their hearts—Heb. within  
them.

7 With God—dependent upon Him.

- 10 Place not your confidence in oppression ;  
Put no vain hope in rapine.  
When riches increase,  
Set not your heart upon them !
- 11 Once hath God spoken,  
Twice have I heard this—  
That "power belongeth unto God!" *as it*
- 12 To Thee also, O Lord ! belongeth loving-kindness,  
For Thou dost reward every man, according to his works.

## PSALM LXIII.

- 1 O God ! Thou art my God, I seek Thee early,  
My soul thirsteth for Thee ;  
My flesh pineth after Thee,  
As a thirsty and weary land, which is without water
- 2 That I may so see Thy power, and Thy glory, *strength*  
As I have beheld Thee in the sanctuary.
- 3 For Thy loving-kindness is better than life ;  
My lips celebrate Thy praise !
- 4 So will I bless Thee, while I live,  
I will lift up my hands in Thy Name.
- 5 As though I were filled with marrow and fatness,  
My mouth praiseth Thee with joyful lips ;
- 6 While I call Thee to mind, upon my bed—  
While I muse upon Thee, during the night-watches.

10 *in oppression*—i. e. in wealth gotten by oppression.

11 *Twice*—This is the Hebrew method of expressing that a thing has been repeatedly done. In the present instance, the repetition is intended to mark the solemnity and importance of the precept delivered. Compare Job xxxiii. 14. and xl. 5.

## LXIII.

1 *early*—i. e. in the morning, with

earnest alacrity. See Ps. xlv. 5. Note.

2 *Thy power and Thy glory*—i. e. the ark of Thy might and the symbol of Thy divine presence.

3 In the remaining verses, the Psalmist declares that he is supported, under his many privations, by recollecting how often he has experienced the favour of God.

5 *filled &c.*—Compare Ps. iv. 7.

6 *my bed*—Compare Ps. xlii. 8.

- 7 For Thou hast been a help unto me,  
Therefore do I rejoice, under the shadow of Thy wings.  
8 My soul cleaveth unto Thee,  
Thy right hand upholdeth me.  
9 But those, who seek to destroy me,  
Shall go down under the earth;  
10 They shall be given up unto the power of the sword,  
They shall become a portion for foxes.  
11 But the king shall rejoice in God!  
Every one, who sweareth by Him, shall glory,  
When the mouth of those, who speak lies, is stopped.

## PSALM LXIV.

- 1 HEAR, O God! the voice of my complaint,  
Preserve my life from my dreadful enemies.  
2 Hide me from the cabals<sup>9</sup> of the wicked—  
From the tumultuous assembly of the workers of iniquity;  
3 Who sharpen, as a sword, their tongue,  
Who prepare the bow for their arrows, even bitter words,  
4 To shoot, in secret places, at the upright.  
Before he is aware, do they shoot at him, and fear not!  
5 They confirm themselves in their wicked purpose,  
They commune of laying snares;  
They say: "Who seeth us?"  
6 They devise iniquity:  
"We have completed an artful device!"  
For the inward thought and heart of each are deep!

<sup>9</sup> to destroy me—Heb. *my life in order to destroy it.*

<sup>10</sup> a portion for foxes—i. e. They shall be denied the rights of sepulture, and their carcasses shall be devoured by wild beasts. The animal here expressly named is the jackal, the fox of Palestine.

<sup>11</sup> sweareth by Him—i. e. holdeth God in due reverence. Such persons

would have occasion of triumph in the re-establishment of David's authority.

## LXIV.

<sup>1</sup> voice of my complaint—Heb. *my voice in my complaining.*

— from my dreadful enemies—Heb. *from terror of the enemy.*

<sup>4</sup> fear not—the vengeance of God.  
<sup>5</sup> laying—Heb. *hiding.*

- 7 But God shall shoot at them with His arrows,  
 Before they are aware, shall they be wounded.  
 8 Yea, every one of them shall be made to stumble,  
 Their own words shall come upon them;  
 All, who look upon them, shall betake themselves to flight.
- 9 All men shall fear,  
 And shall proclaim it the work of God;  
 For they shall discern it to be His doing.
- 10 The righteous shall rejoice in *JEHOVAH*,  
 And take refuge with Him;  
 Yea, all the upright in heart shall glory!

## PSALM LXV.

- 1 UPON Thee shall there be quiet repose;  
 To Thee, O God! shall there be praise in Sion,  
 Yea, unto Thee shall our vows be paid!
- 2 O Thou, who hearest prayer,  
 Unto Thee shall all flesh come!
- 3 My sins are too great for me!  
 Do Thou pardon our transgressions!

7 they be wounded—Heb. be their strokes.

8 every one &c.—Heb. they shall make him to stumble.

— words—Heb. tongue. i. e. threats.

## LXV.

This Psalm contains a thanksgiving to God for having "sent a gracious rain upon His inheritance." The land had been previously suffering from the effects of a long-continued drought, a visitation of Providence upon it, for the manifold sins of its inhabitants.

1 Upon Thee &c.—Heb. To Thee,

O God, (is) quiet trust, praise in Sion.

1 quiet repose—The favourable answer, now vouchsafed to our prayers, tends to produce in us a patient and enduring confidence under Thy visitations.

2 O Thou &c.—i. e. Because Thou hast proved Thyself a hearer of prayer, all men &c.

— flesh—i. e. men, under a deep sense of their own weakness and mortality.

3 My sins &c.—i. e. The punishment justly due to my offences is too great to be borne.

4 Happy he, whom Thou choosest,  
And admittest to dwell in Thy courts!  
May we be fed to the full with the blessings of Thy house—  
Of Thy holy temple!

5 Wonderfully, in mercy, dost Thou answer us,  
O God of our salvation!  
The hope of all the distant borders of the earth and sea!  
6 HE establisheth the mountains by His strength!  
HE is girded with might!  
7 HE stilleth the roaring of the seas—  
The roaring of their waves, and the tumult of the people!  
8 Those, who dwell upon the borders, reverence Thy signs,  
Thou causest the farthest east and west to shout for joy.

9 THOU visitest the earth, and waterest her,  
Thou enrichest her abundantly;  
The rivulets of God are full of water.  
Thou preparest corn for men!  
For thus Thou preparest her;  
10 Saturating her furrows,  
Lowering her ridges,  
Thou softenest her with plenteous showers;  
Thou blessest her, when she putteth forth her shoots.  
11 THOU crownest the year with Thy goodness,  
And the tracks of Thy chariot-wheels drop fatness.

5 *The hope &c.*—i. e. Thou, in whom the inhabitants of the most distant countries place their trust.

8 *Thy signs*—manifestations in the heavens of the acceptance of the prayer of the people, by sending rains.  
— *borders*—of the land.

— *the farthest east and west*—Heb. *the regions whence the morning and evening issue forth*, i. e. the inhabitants of those regions.

9 *rivulets*—God is considered to

water the earth by rains, as men ordinarily do by cutting small artificial canals for that purpose. See Ps. i. 3. Note 1. Compare also Ps. xLvi. 4. Note.

— *men*—Heb. *them*, i. e. the inhabitants of the earth.

11 *tracks of Thy chariot-wheels &c.*—i. e. the clouds in their course, whereon God is represented as riding. Compare Ps. xviii. 9—11. See also Ps. civ. 3.

- 12 They drop it upon the pastures of the wilderness,  
And the hills are girded with gladness.  
13 The fields are clad with flocks,  
And the valleys, decked with corn;  
They shout aloud for joy, yea, they sing!

## PSALM LXVI.

- 1 SHOUT joyfully unto God, all the earth!  
2 Hymn ye the glory of His Name.  
Give glory to Him, declare His praise.  
3 Say unto God:  
"How wonderful are Thy works!  
"Through the greatness of Thy power, *mighty*  
"THINE enemies make a show of submission to Thee.  
4 "All the earth bow down to Thee,  
"Yea, they hymn unto Thee, they hymn Thy Name!"  
5 Come ye, and behold the works of God!  
Wonderful are His doings towards the children of men!  
6 HE turned the sea into dry land;  
They passed through the river on foot.  
Then, did we rejoice in Him!

12 *girded with gladness*—i. e. encircled with cheerful verdure.

13 *They shout*—i. e. the fields, valleys, &c. Compare Ps. xcvi. 8.

## LXVI.

1 *Give &c.*—Heb. *Place glory, His praise*—"Let them give glory unto the LORD, and declare his praise in the islands." Isai. xlii. 12. Compare also Ps. lxxv. 1.

3 *Thine enemies &c.*—i. e. The idolatrous nations are no longer openly hostile to God's chosen people. Compare Ps. xviii. 44, 45.

6 *the sea*—i. e. the Red Sea. "And Moses stretched out his hand over the

*sea*; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east-wind all that night, and made the sea *dry land*, and the waters were divided." Exod. xiv. 21.

6 *the river*—i. e. the Jordan. "For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over." Josh. iv. 23.

—*Then*—i. e. Upon both these signal instances of the Divine power exerted on our behalf.

—*we*—i. e. his chosen people, the Israelites.



He ruleth by His might for ever,  
His eyes watch the nations.  
Let not the rebellious exalt themselves!

- 8 Bless our God, ye people!  
And cause the voice of His praise to be heard!
- 9 It is He, who preserveth us alive,  
And suffereth not our foot to be moved!
- 10 Truly, Thou didst prove us, O God!  
Thou didst try us, as silver is tried.
- 11 Thou didst bring us into the net of the hunter,  
Thou didst lay a heavy load upon our loins.
- 12 Thou didst cause men to ride over our heads,  
We went through fire and through water!  
But Thou hast brought us out, into a place of abundance!
- 13 I will enter Thy house with burnt-offerings;  
I will pay Thee my vows,
- 14 Which my lips uttered,  
And my mouth promised, when I was in trouble.
- 15 I will offer unto Thee fat burnt-offerings, with incense;  
I will sacrifice rams, bullocks and goats!
- 16 Come ye, hearken, all who reverence God!  
And I will declare what He hath done for me.
- 17 I called unto Him with my mouth,  
And His praise was upon my tongue.

11 *upon our loins*—as though we had been beasts of burden.

12 *Thou didst cause &c.*—Thou didst subjugate us to other people, as a horse is brought into subjection to its rider.

— *through fire and through water.*  
—This is a proverbial expression signifying extreme danger. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee...when thou walkest

through the fire, thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee." Isai. xliii. 2.

12 *place of abundance*—Heb. *an overflowing*, i. e. the promised land, "*flowing* with milk and honey" (Exod. iii. 8).

17 *His praise*—Heb. *exaltation*.  
— *upon my tongue*—Heb. *beneath my tongue*, i. e. in my throat. Compare Ps. cxix. 6. Note 2.

18 If, in my heart, I had looked upon wickedness,  
The Lord would not have heard me.

19 But truly God hath heard—  
He hath listened unto the voice of my prayer.

20 Blessed be God,  
Who hath not turned away my prayer,  
Nor His loving-kindness from me!

### PSALM LXVII.

1 MAY God be gracious unto us, and bless us!  
May He show us the light of His countenance!  
2 That Thy way may be known in the earth—  
Thy salvation, among all nations.

3 The nations shall praise Thee, O God! *Thank!*  
All the nations shall praise Thee.  
4 The people shall rejoice and sing,  
Because, with rectitude, Thou dost judge the nations,  
And guide all the people of the earth.

5 The nations shall praise Thee, O God! *Thank!*  
All the nations shall praise Thee.  
6 The earth giveth her increase!

May God, our own God, bless us!  
7 May God bless us!  
And may all the ends of the earth reverence Him!

18 *looked upon wickedness*—i. e. dwelt upon it with complacency. Compare Ps. cxix. 37.

#### LXVII.

1 *May He show &c.*—Heb. *May He enlighten His countenance with*

*us*—i. e. May He regard us with favour.

2 *Thy way*—i. e. the dispensations of thy providence.

6 *The earth &c.*—i. e. the abundance which they enjoy is also a source of thankfulness and gratitude.

## PSALM LXVIII.

- 1 GOD ariseth! His enemies are scattered!  
And those, who hate Him, flee at His appearing!
- 2 As smoke is driven away,  
Dost Thou drive them away;  
As wax melteth before the fire,  
The wicked perish at the presence of God!
- 3 But the righteous rejoice,  
They exult at the presence of God,  
They rejoice with gladness!
- 4 Sing ye unto God, hymn His Name;  
Raise a highway for Him, who rideth through the desert!  
JEHOVAH is His Name!  
Exult ye at His presence!
- 5 A father of the orphan,  
And a defender of the widow,  
Is God in His holy habitation.
- 6 God giveth the desolate a home to dwell in;  
He bringeth forth the bond-servants, into plenteousness,  
But the rebellious abide in a parched land.
- 7 O God! when Thou wentest forth before Thy people—  
When Thou didst march through the wilderness,

## LXVIII.

1 *God ariseth*—i. e. The ark of God moves forward from its resting place. "And it came to pass, when the ark set forward, that Moses said, *Rise up LORD, and let thine enemies be scattered; and let them that hate thee flee before thee.* Num. x. 35.

— *at His appearing*—Heb. *from His face*—i. e. from the presence of the ark of God.

2 *the wicked*—i. e. the idolatrous enemies of the Israelites, as opposed to whom, they (the Israelites), being

worshippers of the true God, are, in ver. 3, called "the righteous."

4 *highway*—"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." Isai. xl. 3.

— *rideth*—See Ps. xviii. 10. and Note.

6 In this verse reference is made to the forlorn condition of the Israelites while in Egypt, and to their ungrateful and rebellious conduct while proceeding to the promised land. Compare Ps. cvii. 32—36.

- 8 The earth trembled,  
 Yea, the heavens dropped rain, at the presence of God—  
 Sinai itself trembled,  
 At the presence of God, the God of Israel!
- 9 THOU, O God! didst shed upon Thy heritage plenteous rains,  
 And Thou didst refresh it, when it was weary.
- 10 THY congregation abode therein,  
 THOU, O God! of Thy goodness, didst provide for the afflicted.
- 11 The Lord giveth the word!  
 A great company of women announce the glad tidings!
- 12 Kings with their armies flee—they flee!  
 And those, who dwell within the house, divide the spoil!
- 13 Although they lie among the hearth-stones,  
 They are become like a dove's wings overlaid with silver,  
 And like her pinions overlaid with yellow gold.
- 14 When the Almighty scattereth kings,  
 They glisten therein, as snow upon Salmon.

8 *Sinai itself trembled*—Heb. *This Sinai*.

9 *shed upon*—Heb. *sprinkle*.

— *Thy heritage*—i. e. Thy peculiar people.

10 *Thy congregation abode therein*—By Thine especial care, the whole assembly of Thy worshippers was preserved alive in the desert.

— *provide*—Heb. *prepare*—i. e. by sending them "bread from heaven."

11 *the word*—i. e. the promise of victory, which was immediately fulfilled.

— *company of women*—Thus 1 Sam. xviii. 6—"when David was returned from the slaughter of the Philistine, the women came out of all cities of Israel singing and dancing to meet King Saul."...Compare also Exod. xv. 20. Judges xi. 34.

12 *those, who dwell*—Heb. *she who*

*dwelleth*.

12 *those, who dwell within the house*—i. e. the women. They are thus described in allusion to their retired habits of life, in eastern countries. See Ps. xlv. 13. Note 2. and Ps. cxxviii. 3.

13 *lie among the hearth-stones*—i. e. are habitually employed in the lowest domestic offices, and whose ordinary dress therefore is mean and soiled.

— *the hearth-stones*—Heb. *rests* (for boilers).

— *They are become*—by being decked in the spoils of the enemy.

14 *glisten as snow*—Heb. (each woman) *is snowy*.

— *therein*—i. e. in the spoils distributed amongst them.

— *Salmon*—This mountain is mentioned Judg. ix. 48.

- 15 A mighty mountain is the mountain of Bashan ;  
 A mountain of lofty heights is the mountain of Bashan !  
 16 Why, O lofty mountains ! do ye regard with envy  
 That mountain, wherein God hath loved to dwell,  
 Yea, wherein JEHOVAH abideth for ever ?  
 17 God hath been to them twice ten thousand chariots,  
 Even thousands of thousands !  
 The Lord hath been among them,  
 As upon Sinai, in the sanctuary !  
 18 THOU art gone up on high,  
 Thou hast led captive the conquered enemy ;  
 THOU, O JEHOVAH-GOD ! receivest gifts,  
 And dwellest among men, yea, even rebellious men !  
 19 Blessed be the Lord from day to day—  
 The God, who is our safety, when men oppress us !

15 *mighty mountain*—Heb. *mountain of God*.

— *Bashan*—Under this name is comprehended the mountainous district, which formed the kingdom of Og, one of the most formidable opponents whom the Israelites had to encounter in their journey from Egypt to the promised land.

17 *God hath been to them*—Heb. *God (hath been)*.

— *to them*—i. e. to the Israelites.

“When thou goest out to battle against thine enemies, and seest horses, and chariots, and a people more than thou, be not afraid of them : for the LORD thy God is *with thee*, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.”  
 “For the LORD your God is he that *goeth with you, to fight for you* against your enemies, to save you.” Deut. xx. 1. and 4.

— *chariots*—i. e. as effectual a safeguard as innumerable war-chariots would have been. “The chariot of

Israel and the horsemen thereof !” 2 Kings ii. 12. Compare Ps. xx. 7.

17 *thousands of thousands*—Heb. *thousands reiterated*.

— *upon Sinai*—“And he said, The LORD came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them ; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with *ten thousands of saints*” (i. e. angels). Deut. xxxiii. 2.

18 *on high*—i. e. upon Mount Sion. Compare Ps. xxiv. Introductory Note.

— *the conquered enemy*—Heb. *captivity*, i. e. the captives.

— *receivest gifts*—Compare v. 29.

— *and dwellest*—Heb. *so as to dwell*, i. e. continuest to dwell amongst the Israelites, rebellious as they have proved themselves. “Defile not therefore the land which ye shall inhabit, *wherein I dwell* : for I the LORD dwell among the children of Israel.” See Num. xxxv. 34. Ps. Lxxviii. 60.

19 *when men oppress*—Heb. *one loadeth*.

- 20 He, who is our God, is a God of salvation,  
 Yea, to 689JEHOVAH, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.
- 21 But God shall crush the head of His enemies—  
 The hairy scalp of him, who goeth on in his trespasses.
- 22 The Lord saith :  
 " I will bring thee back, as from Bashan,  
 " I will bring thee back, as from the depths of the sea ;
- 23 " So that thou shalt dip thy foot in blood,  
 " And the tongue of thy dogs shall feed upon the enemy."
- 24 THY processions, O God! are seen—  
 The processions of my God and my King, unto the sanctuary.
- 25 The singers go before ;  
 The minstrels follow,  
 Amid damsels striking the timbrel :
- 26 " In the public assemblies, bless ye God, .  
 " Even the Lord, O ye of the race of Israel!"
- 27 There is the tribe of Benjamin, the youngest, with their lord,  
 The princes of Judah, with their band,  
 The princes of Zebulon, and the princes of Naphthali.
- 28 Thy God hath ordained strength for thee!

Confirm, O God! that which Thou hast wrought for us,

20 *deliverances from death*—Heb. *goings out of death*.

21 *goeth on in his trespasses*—i. e. persists to the end in his wicked course.

22 *I will bring thee back &c.*—i. e. I will bring thee, O Israel, back in triumph now from the battle, as I did heretofore from your conflict with Og the king of Bashan, and from the passage of the Red Sea.

23 *the tongue &c.*—Heb. *as to the tongue of thy dogs, its portion shall be from the enemies*. Compare Ps. lxxiii. 10.

26 *race*—Heb. *fountain*. "Hear

ye this, O house of Jacob, which are called by the name of Israel, and are come forth out of the waters of Judah." Isai. xlviii. 1.

27 *the tribe of Benjamin*—Heb. *Benjamin*.

— *their lord*—i. e. the ruler of the tribe of Benjamin, the youngest of the twelve sons of Jacob (Gen. xlii. 32).

28 *ordained strength*—i. e. promised His aid. Compare ver. 11.

— *Confirm &c.*—i. e. Secure to us all the advantages of our recent triumph.

29 From Thy temple, which is in Jerusalem.

Kings shall bring presents unto Thee!

30 Rebuke the wild-beast of the reeds—

The assembly of the bulls, with the calves of the people;

That they may humble themselves with pieces of silver!

Scatter Thou the people, who delight in war!

31 The princes shall come out of Egypt,

Ethiopia shall run, and stretch forth her hands unto God.

32 O ye kingdoms of the earth! sing unto God,

Hymn ye the Lord!

33 Sing unto Him, who rideth upon the heavens—

The heavens, which have been from of old!

Lo, He uttereth His voice, a mighty voice!

34 Ascribe ye power unto God;

His majesty is over Israel,

And His might is in the clouds!

29 *From Thy temple*—See ver. 35. Compare also Ps. xiv. 7, and Ps. cx.

2.

— *unto Thee*—May the kings of the earth, having witnessed this Thy interference in behalf of Thy chosen people, make offerings to Thee!

30 *Rebuke &c.*—i. e. Overthrow our enemies now, as Thou didst heretofore the Egyptians and the inhabitants of Bashan. See ver. 22.

— *the wild beast &c.*—i. e. the crocodile, which here represents Egypt.

— *the bulls ... the calves*—These terms are descriptive respectively of the rulers and of the people of Bashan (see vv. 15, 22), whose country was celebrated for the richness of its pastures and the strength and fierceness of its cattle. See Ps. xxii. 12.

31 This verse appears to be the answer to the Psalmist's prayer. "Thus saith the LORD, the labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of

the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God." Isai. xlv. 14.

31 *come*—as suppliants.

— *shall run &c.*—Heb. *shall run her hands unto God*. Compare Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

33 *rideth*—Compare Ps. xviii. 10. and Note 2.

— *upon the heavens*—... "the God of Jeshurun rideth upon the heaven... and in his excellency on the sky." Deut. xxxiii. 26.

— *His voice*—the thunder. See Ps. xxix. 3.

34 *His majesty &c.*—i. e. He reigns over His chosen people. See ver. 18.

- 35 Wonderful art Thou, O God!  
 When Thou comest forth from Thy sanctuary!  
 He is the God of Israel!  
 He giveth might and strength unto His people!  
 Blessed be God!

## PSALM LXIX.

- 1 SAVE me, O God!  
 For the waters threaten my life.  
 2 I sink in deep mire,  
 Wherein is no standing;  
 I am come into the depths of the waters,  
 And the stream floweth over me.  
 3 I am weary with calling upon Thee, my throat is parched;  
 Mine eyes waste away, with waiting earnestly for my God.  
 4 Those who hate me, without cause,  
 Are more in number than the hairs of my head;  
 Those who would destroy me—  
 Those, who wrongfully are mine enemies, are mighty.  
 I yield up to them forthwith  
 That, which I gained not by violence.  
 5 O God! Thou knowest my wickedness,  
 And my trespasses are not hidden from Thee.

35 *when Thou comest forth from—*  
 Heb. *out of*. i. e. when the ark goeth  
 forth to aid Israel. Compare vv. i.  
 29.

## LXIX.

1 *threaten my life*—Heb. *enter in*  
*unto (my) life*. i. e. rise so high as  
 nearly to drown me.

2 *in deep mire*—It was customary  
 to secure prisoners in cisterns or pits;  
 hence, probably, the expressions em-  
 ployed here and in verses 14 and 15.  
 "Then took they Jeremiah, and cast

him into the dungeon of Malchiah  
 the son of Hammelech, that was in  
 the court of the prison: and they let  
 down Jeremiah with cords. And in  
 the dungeon there was no water, but  
 mire: so Jeremiah *sunk in the mire*."  
 Jer. xxxviii. 6.

3 *with calling upon Thee*—Heb.  
*with my calling out*.

4 *I yield up &c.*—i. e. I hesitate  
 not to comply with their unjust de-  
 mands when they claim at my hands  
 what I rightfully possess.

5 *O God, &c.*—i. e. Thou knowest



- 6 O Lord, JEHOVAH, God of Hosts!  
 Let not those, who trust in Thee,  
 Be ashamed through me.  
 O God of Israel!  
 Let not those, who seek Thee,  
 Be brought into contempt through me.
- 7 For on Thine account, do I bear reproach—  
 Shame covereth my face—
- 8 I am become an alien unto my brethren,  
 Yea, a stranger unto the sons of mine own mother.
- 9 Truly, zeal for Thine House  
 Devoureth me;  
 And the reproaches of those, who reproach Thee,  
 Are fallen upon me.
- 10 When I weep with fasting,  
 It is turned into a reproach against me!
- 11 When I make sack-cloth my clothing,  
 I become unto them a by-word!
- 12 Those, who sit at the gates, speak against me,  
 And I am the subject of the drunkards' song.
- 13 But as for me, let my prayer come unto Thee,  
 In an acceptable time, O JEHOVAH!  
 O God! through the abundance of thy loving-kindness,  
 Answer me with the truth of Thy salvation.
- 14 Deliver me out of the mire,<sup>6</sup>  
 And let me not sink;  
 Let me be delivered from those, who hate me,  
 And from the depths of the waters,

whether I am really guilty of the charges brought against me by my enemies. By this appeal the Psalmist means to assert his innocence.

<sup>6</sup> *through me*—i. e. by seeing me, thy servant, a prey to mine enemies.

<sup>7</sup> *For &c.*—i. e. (I ask this) for &c.

<sup>8</sup> *of mine own mother*—See Ps. L. 20. Note.

<sup>9</sup> *devoureth me*—i. e. becomes my destruction.

<sup>12</sup> *at the gates*—See Ps. L. 20. Note.

<sup>13</sup> *with the truth of Thy salvation*—i. e. by realizing to me Thy promised salvation.

- 15 Let not the stream of waters flow over me,  
 Let not the deep swallow me up;  
 Nor the pit close her mouth upon me.
- 16 Answer me, O JEHOVAH!  
 For Thy loving-kindness is great,  
 According to the abundance of Thy mercies,  
 Turn Thou towards me.
- 17 And hide not Thy face from Thy servant;  
 Because I am in trouble, quickly answer me!
- 18 Draw nigh unto me, redeem me,  
 Deliver me, because of mine enemies!
- 19 Thou knowest my reproach, and my shame, and my disgrace;  
 All mine enemies are before Thee.
- 20 Reproach hath broken my heart, and I am weakened;  
 I look for some to show pity, but there is no one,  
 Yea, for comforters, but I find them not!
- 21 Nay, they give me gall for my food,  
 And in my thirst, they offer me vinegar to drink.
- 22 Let their table, which is before them, become a snare,  
 Yea, a trap to them in their prosperity.
- 23 Let their eyes be darkened, that they may not see,  
 And cause Thou their loins to tremble continually.
- 24 Pour out Thine indignation upon them,  
 And let the heat of Thine anger overtake them.
- 25 Let their habitation be desolate,  
 Yea, let there be no dweller in their tents;
- 26 For they persecute him, whom Thou hast smitten,  
 And add to the grief of those, who are wounded by Thee.
- 27 Give them punishment upon punishment,  
 And let them not come into Thy righteousness.

15 close her mouth upon me.—See ver. 2. Note.

22 See Psalm cix. Introductory Note.

— Let their table &c.—i. e. Let them not enjoy their ill-gotten wealth.

23 be darkened—Let them feel as though suffering under extreme want. Compare Ps. xiii. 3. Note.

27 not come &c.—i. e. not be reckoned amongst the true worshippers of Jehovah.

- 28 Let them be blotted out of the book of the living,<sup>41</sup>  
And let them not be written among the righteous.
- 29 But as for me, I am afflicted and grieved;  
O God! may Thy salvation raise me up on high!<sup>42</sup>
- 30 I will praise the Name of God with a song,  
And magnify Him with thanksgiving.
- 31 And this will be more pleasing unto JEHOVAH, than bulls—  
Than horned oxen with divided hoof.
- 32 The afflicted shall see, and shall rejoice;  
And your hearts, O ye who seek God! shall revive.
- 33 For JEHOVAH hearkeneth to the poor,<sup>43</sup>  
And despiseth not His servants, who are in bonds.
- 34 Let the heavens and the earth praise Him,  
The seas, and all things, which move therein.
- 35 For God will save Sion,  
And build the cities of Judah;  
That they may dwell there and have it in possession.
- 36 Yea, the posterity of His servants shall inherit it,  
And those, who love His Name, shall abide therein.

## PSALM LXX.

- 1 O God! hasten to deliver Me;  
O JEHOVAH! hasten to Mine aid.
- 2 Let those, who seek My life,  
Be brought to shame, and confusion of face;

<sup>31</sup> *than bulls*—i. e. than any the most choice sacrifices, which can be offered. Compare Ps. xL. 6.

<sup>32</sup> *shall see*—the interposition of God in my behalf. Compare Ps. cxLii. 7.

<sup>33</sup> *His servants who are in bonds*—Heb. *His bound ones*. See ver. 2. Note.

<sup>34</sup> See Ps. li. 18. Note.

<sup>35</sup> *they*—i. e. His servants. See ver. 36.

<sup>36</sup> *the posterity*—Heb. *the seed*.

## LXX.

See the Introductory Note to Psalm xL, with the latter part of which this Psalm almost literally coincides.

<sup>2</sup> See Ps. xxxv. 4. Note.

- Let those, who delight in My calamity,  
 Be driven backward, and covered with contempt.  
 3 Let those be turned back, because of their shame,  
 Who say: "Aha, Aha!"  
 4 Let all those, who seek Thee, be glad and rejoice in Thee;  
 And let those, who love Thy salvation, ever say:  
 "May JEHOVAH be magnified!"
- 5 As for Me, I am afflicted and poor, *poor, needy*  
 O God! hasten unto Me.  
 Thou art My help, and My deliverer;  
 O JEHOVAH! delay not. <sup>1019</sup>

## PSALM LXXI.

- 1 WITH Thee, O JEHOVAH! do I take refuge; <sup>947</sup>  
 Let me never be put to shame!  
 2 In Thy mercy deliver me, and rescue me;  
 Incline unto me Thine ear, and save me.  
 3 Be Thou unto me a rock— *as a rock*  
 A dwelling, to which I may continually resort.  
 Give commandment to save me;  
 For Thou art my rock and my fortress. <sup>750</sup>  
 4 O my God! rescue me from the hand of the wicked—  
 From the grasp of the unjust and the violent.  
 5 For Thou art my hope, O Lord!  
 O JEHOVAH! Thou hast been my confidence from my youth!  
 6 By Thee have I been supported from my birth,  
 From the womb of my mother, Thou hast been my benefactor;  
 My praise is continually of Thee!  
 7 I am become as it were a portentous sign unto many,  
 But Thou art my strong refuge. <sup>1019</sup>

3 Aha! Aha!—Compare Ps. xl.  
 15. Note.

5 delay not—i. e. to come to my assistance.

## LXXI.

7 a portentous sign—Many are willing to persuade themselves that my trials proceed directly from God's

- 8 My mouth is filled with Thy praise—  
All the day long, with Thy glory.
- 9 Cast me not away in the time of old age;  
When my strength faileth, forsake me not.
- 10 For mine enemies speak concerning me—  
Yea, those, who watch for my life, consult together,  
11 Saying: "God hath forsaken him!  
"Pursue and seize him, for he hath no deliverer!
- 12 O God! be not Thou far from me,  
O my God! hasten to mine aid.
- 13 Let the enemies of my life  
Be brought to shame, and come to an end;  
Let those, who seek my hurt,  
Be clothed with disgrace and scorn.
- 14 But as for me, I will continually wait in confidence,  
And will yet add more and more unto all Thy praise.
- 15 My mouth shall declare Thy mercy—  
All the day long, Thy salvation.  
Truly, I am not able to number Thy mercies!
- 16 I will dwell upon the mighty deeds of the Lord JEHOVAH;  
Thy mercies, Thine only, will I commemorate.
- 17 O God! Thou hast taught me from my youth,  
And unto this time, do I proclaim Thy wondrous deeds.
- 18 Yea, moreover, in old age and grey hairs,  
O God! forsake me not;  
Until I have proclaimed Thy might unto this generation—  
Thy greatness, unto all who are to come.

wrath, and are intended to warn them against pursuing a like course of conduct.

14 *will yet add &c.*—i. e. expatiate upon &c.

15 *I am not &c.*—Heb. *I know not the numbers.*

16 *I will dwell &c.*—Heb. *I will enter upon the greatness of the Lord Jehovah, i. e. The strength of Jehovah shall be the constant subject of my meditations, and my sole reliance.*

18 *Thy might*—Heb. *Thine arm.*

- 19 **THY** mercy, O God! reacheth unto the height of heaven,  
For Thou hast done great things!  
O God! who is like unto Thee?
- 20 Though Thou hast shown me many and grievous troubles,  
Yet Thou revivest me;  
And bringest me back from the depths of the earth.
- 21 **THOU** increasest my greatness,  
And surroundest me with comforts.
- 22 I, also, will celebrate Thee with the lute, *M. S. 10*  
I will celebrate Thy faithfulness, O God!  
I will hymn unto Thee with the harp,  
O Holy One of Israel! *as 10. 3*
- 23 My lips shall sing aloud, when I hymn unto Thee,  
Yea, my spirit, which Thou hast redeemed.
- 24 My tongue, also, all the day long,  
Shall tell of Thy mercy,  
For those, who sought my hurt,  
Are brought to shame—to confusion of face.

## PSALM LXXII.

- 1 O God! give Thy judgments unto the king,  
Yea, Thy righteousness unto the king's son!
- 2 **HE** shall decide the cause of Thy people righteously,  
And of Thine afflicted ones, with equity. *as 10. 10*
- 3 The mountains shall announce prosperity unto the people,  
And the hills, through righteousness!

19 the height of heaven—Heb. the height. Compare Ps. cxlviii. 1. and Ps. lxxviii. 69.

20 shown me—i. e. made me to experience.

23 my spirit &c.—Heb. the spirit of me whom Thou hast redeemed (shall rejoice).

## LXXII.

1 Grant that Solomon, who is "the

king" and also the "king's (David's) son," may exercise righteous judgment over his people.

2 In the remainder of the Psalm, the Psalmist takes occasion, from the prosperity of Solomon's reign, to describe prophetically the blessings of the Messiah's future kingdom.

3 The mountains—It was usual to place persons upon eminences, for the purpose of conveying intelligence or

- 1 HE shall give sentence for the afflicted of the people;  
 HE shall save the children of the poor,  
 And shall crush the oppressor!
- 5 THOU shalt be had in reverence,  
 So long as the sun and moon shall shine—  
 Throughout all generations!
- 6 HE shall come down, as rain upon the mown field—  
 As plenteous showers, watering the earth.
- 7 In His days, shall the righteous flourish,  
 And there shall be abundance of prosperity,  
 Until the moon shall be no more.
- 8 HE shall rule from sea to sea,  
 And from the river, unto the ends of the earth.
- 9 Before Him, shall the inhabitants of the desert kneel  
 And His enemies shall lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall bring presents,  
 The kings of Sheba and Seba shall offer gifts.
- 11 Yea, all kings shall bow down before Him,  
 All nations shall serve Him.

proclaiming good tidings. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace!" Isai. Lii. 7, 8. "O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up into the high mountain." Isai. xl. 9.

3 *through righteousness*—i. e. in consequence of the justice of the King's government, peace and happiness shall be everywhere diffused among those who are under his sway.

5 *Thou shalt be had in reverence*—Heb. *They shall reverence Thee* (Messiah).

6 *as rain*—"he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain, unto the earth." Hosea vi. 3.

—*the mown field*—The field thus deprived of its produce, aptly repre-

sents the condition of an impoverished and oppressed people.

6 *watering*—Heb. *the irrigation of*.

8 *from sea to sea &c.*—The language here employed to signify the extent of the Messiah's kingdom is like that, which is used (Exod. xxiii. 31.) to describe the limits of the promised land.

9 *lick &c.*—"They shall lick the dust like a serpent." Micah vii. 17.

10 *Tarshish and of the isles*—Tarshish is probably Spain; the islands, those of the Mediterranean Sea, including its northern coasts.

—*Sheba and Seba*.—Sheba, a part of Arabia Felix—Seba, a country in the interior of Africa. This verse implies that the dominion of the Messiah shall extend over the most distant parts of the world.

- 12 For He will deliver the poor, who crieth aloud,  
And the afflicted, who hath no helper! *needy*  
13 He will have pity upon the needy and poor man,  
Yea, the lives of the poor will He save! *valley*  
14 He will redeem them from wrong and from violence,  
And precious shall their blood be in His sight!  
15 He shall live and prosper,  
And unto Him shall be given of the gold of Sheba;  
Prayer shall be made for Him continually,  
Daily shall He be blessed!  
16 There shall be abundance of corn in the land,  
Even upon the tops of the mountains;  
The fruit thereof shall shake, as Lebanon!  
The inhabitants, of the cities also, shall spring up,  
As the grass of the earth.  
17 His Name shall endure for ever!  
As long as the sun shall shine,  
Shall His Name be handed down!  
And all nations shall be blessed through Him,  
They shall call Him happy!  
18 Blessed be JEHOVAH-GOD, the God of Israel!  
Who alone doeth wondrous things!  
19 Blessed be His glorious Name for ever,  
Yea, let all the earth be filled with His glory!  
AMEN! and AMEN!

15 *live and prosper*—Heb. *live*.

— *made for Him*—by all the subjects of His kingdom, in grateful acknowledgment of the blessings, which they enjoy, under His mild and paternal government.

16 *tops of the mountains*—i. e. in situations where corn is least to be expected.

— *shall shake as Lebanon*—i. e. shall wave backwards and forwards with the wind, like the tall cedars of

Lebanon. This implies that the corn will be lofty and luxuriant.

16 *The inhabitants of the cities*—Heb. (They) *of the city*.

— *As the grass*—"thy seed shall be great and thine offspring as the grass of the earth." Job v. 25. Compare also Isai. xlv. 4.

18 The second Hebrew division of the Psalms ends with this doxology. See Ps. xli. 13. Note.



## PSALM LXXIII.

1 TRULY, God is good unto Israel—  
Unto the pure in heart!

2 But as for me, my feet had well nigh swerved,  
My steps had all but slipped.

3 For I was envious against the arrogant—  
I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

4 Truly, they have no pangs until their death,  
But their bodies are sleek.

5 They fall not into the sorrows of mortals,  
Nor are they afflicted, as other men.

6 Therefore doth pride deck them, as a chain,  
Violence covereth them, as a garment.

7 Their eyes are prominent from fatness,  
The imaginations of their hearts exceed all bounds.

8 They scoff and speak wickedly,  
They speak oppressively from on high.

9 They place their mouth in the heavens,  
And their tongue rangeth through the earth.

10 Therefore do His people turn hither,  
And abundant waters are sucked up by them.

11 They say also: "How doth God know?"  
And, "Is there knowledge in the Most High?"

## LXXIII.

2 *my feet &c.*—The Psalmist here figuratively states that his conviction of the great truth contained in ver. 1. had been, for an instant, shaken.

4 *they have &c.*—i. e. Their whole life is spent in ease and enjoyment.

— *sleek*—i. e. not wasted by disease or anxiety.

7 *from fatness*—Compare Ps. xvii.  
10. Note.

7 *exceed all bounds*—Heb. *pass beyond*. Compare Ps. civ. 9.

8 *from on high*—i. e. from the seat of authority.

9 *They place &c.*—i. e. They carry themselves loftily, and every where assert their own superiority.

10 *hither*—i. e. towards these wicked men.

— *And abundant &c.*—i. e. The wicked derive from hence very great advantages.

- 12 Behold, these are wicked!  
 Yet are they at peace for ever,  
 They increase their substance!
- 13 Surely, then, in vain have I purified my heart,  
 And washed my hands in innocency!
- 14 For I am afflicted all the day long,  
 And am chastened every morning.
- 15 If I should say: "I will speak as they do;"  
 Lo, I should deal treacherously by Thy faithful servants.
- 16 Therefore I studied to understand this;  
 It was difficult in mine eyes!
- 17 Until I went unto the sanctuary of God—  
 Until I discerned what afterward befalleth them.
- 18 Truly, in slippery paths dost Thou set them,  
 Thou castest them down into places of destruction.
- 19 How suddenly do they become a desolation! <sup>743</sup>  
 They are consumed, they come to an end from terror! <sup>1208</sup>
- 20 When Thou, O Lord! arisest,  
 They are as a dream to one awaking!  
 Thou despisest their shadowy form!
- 21 When my heart was soured,  
 And I was pierced to my inmost soul;
- 22 Then was I brutish, and without understanding—  
 I was as the beasts before Thee!
- 23 But, as for me, I am continually in Thy presence,  
 Thou holdest me by my right hand.

13 *washed* &c.—Compare Ps. xxvi.  
 6. Note.

15 *deal treacherously* &c.—i. e. mis-  
 lead Thy true worshippers.

— *Thy faithful servants*—Heb. *the*  
*generation of Thy children.*

17 *what afterward* &c.—Heb. *their*  
*sequel.*

— *them*—i. e. the wicked.

20 *their shadowy form*—i. e. their  
 unsubstantial and imaginary great-  
 ness. Compare Ps. xxxix. 6.

21 *my inmost soul*—Heb. *my reins*.  
 See Ps. vii. 9. Note 2.

22 *I was* &c.—i. e. I deserved to be  
 put on a level with irrational crea-  
 tures, for having hastily taken so  
 erroneous and unjust a view of Thy  
 dealings.

- 24 By Thy counsel dost Thou guide me,  
And receive me afterward with glory!
- 25 Whom have I in heaven?—  
Yea, upon earth, I delight in nothing as in Thee.
- 26 Though my flesh and my heart fail,  
Yet God is the rock of my heart, and my portion for ever.
- 27 For behold, those, who depart from Thee, perish;  
Thou destroyest all, who estrange themselves from Thee!
- 28 But, as for me, to be near unto God is good for me!  
I place my refuge in the Lord JEHOVAH,  
And will declare all Thy works!

## PSALM LXXIV.

- 1 WHY, O God! dost Thou reject us for ever?  
Why doth Thy wrath burn against the sheep of Thy pasture?
- 2 Call to mind Thy people,  
Which Thou didst purchase of old—  
Which Thou didst redeem—the tribe of Thine inheritance—  
Mount Sion, wherein Thou hast dwelt!
- 3 Lift up Thy feet, and go unto the places utterly desolate;  
The enemy break in pieces all things in Thy sanctuary!
- 4 THINE adversaries roar in Thy places of solemn assembly!  
They set up their standards for signals!
- 5 They appear, like men bringing up axes  
Against a tangled forest;
- 6 And now they beat down at once its fretted work,  
With bars and hammers.

25 upon earth—See Ps. xvi. 3.

27 estrange themselves from Thee—  
Heb. go a whoring from Thee. i. e.  
desert the service of the living God  
for that of idols.

## LXXIV.

1 burn—Heb. smoke.

2 Compare Ps. lxxviii. 60.

3 Lift up Thy feet and go unto—  
Heb. Raise Thy feet unto &c. Com-  
pare Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

4 roar—as wild beasts.  
— signals—i. e. of victory.

5 They appear like men—Heb.  
(the enemy) is known as (one).

6 its—i. e. of the House of God.

- 7 They set on fire Thy sanctuary,  
They cast to the ground and profane Thy dwelling place!
- 8 They say in their hearts:  
"Let us destroy them altogether!"  
They burn all God's places of assembly in the land!
- 9 We see not our signs,  
There is no longer a prophet,  
Nor is there among us one, who knoweth how long!
- 10 How long, O God! shall the adversary revile—  
The enemy condemn Thy Name?—for ever?
- 11 Why drawest Thou back Thy hand, even Thy right hand?  
Pluck it from Thy bosom, and consume them.
- 12 Yet God was my king of old,  
He wrought deliverances in the midst of the earth!
- 13 Thou didst divide the sea through Thy power,  
And break in pieces the heads of the monsters in the waters!
- 14 Thou didst crush the heads of the crocodile,  
Thou gavest him to be food for the people—  
For the inhabitants of the desert!

7 *profane and cast to the ground—*  
Heb. *profane to the ground.*

— *Thy dwelling place*—Heb. *the dwelling place of Thy name.*

9 *our signs*—i. e. any of the tokens, usually given by our God, of approaching deliverance.

— *how long*—the judgments now inflicted upon us will continue.

11 *drawest Thou back* &c. "He hath cut off in his fierce anger all the horn of Israel: he hath drawn back his right hand from before the enemy, and he burned against Jacob like a flaming fire, which devoureth round about." Lam. ii. 3.

11 *pluck* &c.—Heb. *from the midst of Thy bosom, destroy.*

12 *Yet* &c.—i. e. Notwithstanding God's refusal now to interfere in our behalf, He is the same God who hath heretofore afforded us signal proofs of His power and goodness, and rescued us from the hand of our enemies. Compare Ps. xxii. 4.

— *in the midst of the earth*—i. e. so that all the nations of the earth have witnessed them,—“to the end thou mayest know that I am the Lord in the midst of the earth.” Exod. viii. 22. Compare also Exod. ix. 16.

13 *monsters*—particularly crocodiles. These are emblematical of Pharaoh king of Egypt and his army.

14 *heads of the crocodile*—i. e. captains of Pharaoh.

- 15 THOU didst cleave rocks, and bring out fountains and streams,  
THOU didst dry up mighty rivers!
- 16 THINE is the day, Thine also is the night,  
THOU hast established the lights—yea, the sun!
- 17 THOU hast set all the boundaries of the earth,  
THOU hast made summer and winter!

- 18 Call this to mind;  
The enemy revile JEHOVAH!  
And a godless people condemn Thy Name!
- 19 Give not up the life of Thy turtle-dove to the wild beast,  
Forget not Thine afflicted people for ever.
- 20 Have regard to Thy covenant,  
For the dark places of the land  
Are filled with the abodes of violence.
- 21 Let not the poor man turn back confounded!  
Let the afflicted and needy praise Thy Name!
- 22 Arise, O God! maintain Thy cause,  
Call to mind the revilings,  
Which Thou daily endurest from the impious.
- 23 Forget not the clamour of Thine adversaries!  
The tumult of Thine enemies increaseth continually!

14 *food*—This term is used figuratively for the spoils of the Egyptians.

— *inhabitants of the desert*—i. e. the wild Arabs on the borders of the Red Sea. Compare Ps. lxxii. 9.

15 *Thou didst cleave rocks and bring out*—Heb. *Thou didst cleave*.

16 *Thine &c.*—i. e. They were created and are ordered by Thy power.

— *the lights*—i. e. the luminaries.—“the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night.” Gen. i. 16.

— *the sun*—which is especially named, as being the great fountain of light.

17 *Thou hast set &c.*—This refers

to the distribution of the earth into land and sea, “by Him who placed the sand for the bound of the sea by a perpetual decree that it cannot pass it.” Jer. v. 22.

18 *godless*—Heb. *foolish*.

19 *Thine afflicted people*—Heb. *the congregation of thine afflicted ones*.

20 *Thy covenant*—by which Thou didst promise to give unto Thy people the land of Canaan.

— *dark places &c.*—i. e. caverns. These are very frequent in Palestine.

— *abodes of violence*—i. e. hiding places for spoilers. Compare Ps. x. 8, 9.

21 *praise*—i. e. have cause to praise.

## PSALM LXXV.

- 1 WE praise Thee, O God! we praise Thee,  
Because Thou art near.  
Men declare Thy wondrous acts!
- 2 "When I hold the solemn assembly,  
"I will give sentence with rectitude.
- 3 "The earth and all its inhabitants shall melt away,  
"I will set upright the pillars thereof!"
- 4 I say unto the arrogant: Be not arrogant!  
And unto the wicked: Raise not up your horn!
- 5 Raise not up your horn on high,  
Speak not with a stiff neck!
- 6 For neither from the east, nor from the west,  
Nor from the south, cometh exaltation.
- 7 Truly, God is Judge,  
He casteth down one, He raiseth up another.
- 8 For there is a cup in the hand of JEHOVAH,  
And the wine foameth.

## LXXV.

1 *because &c.*—i. e. for being at hand to protect and save us in distress. See Ps. xlv. 1.

— *Thou art*—Heb. *Thy Name* (is).

2 This and the following verse contain the words of God.

3 *melt away*—with terror at the presence of the great Judge.

— *the pillars*—The pillars and foundations (See Ps. lxxxii. 5.) of the earth signify those fundamental laws which are essential to the existence and well-being of society. Compare Ps. xi. 3. Note 1.

4 *I say &c.*—i. e. Upon this view of the determination of the Almighty, I say &c.

— *horn*—Compare Ps. xviii. 2. Note.

5 *haughty*—Heb. *stiff*.

6 *from the east &c.*—i. e. from no quarter can merely human support and assistance avail.

7 *cup*—Compare Ps. xi. 6. Note. "Awake, awake, stand up, O Jerusalem, which hast drunk at the hand of the LORD the cup of his fury: thou hast drunken the dregs of the cup of trembling, and wrung them out." Isai. li. 17.

— *wine*—The stunning effects of God's judgments are here compared to those of an intoxicating draught. "Thou afflicted and drunken, but not with wine." Isai. li. 21. Compare Ps. lx. 3.

— *foameth*—thereby showing that it had just been poured out, for immediate drinking.

HE hath filled it with mixed wine,  
And He poureth out thereof.  
Surely, they shall suck up its dregs,  
All the wicked of the earth shall drink them.

- 9 But, as for me, I will give praise for ever—  
I will hymn, unto the God of Jacob!  
10 And will break in pieces all the horns of the wicked.  
The horns of the righteous shall be exalted!

## PSALM LXXVI.

- 1 GOD is made known in Judah!  
His Name is great in Israel!  
2 At Salem is His tabernacle,  
And His dwelling-place in Sion!  
3 There hath He broken the arrows—  
The shield, and the sword, and the weapons of war!  
4 Excellent art Thou!  
More glorious than the mountains of prey!  
5 The stout of heart are despoiled, they sleep their sleep!  
All the men of valour are become powerless!  
6 At Thy rebuke, O God of Jacob!  
Charioteer and horseman are sunk in deep sleep!

8 *mixed wine*—i.e. wine mixed with spices. Compare Prov. xxiii. 30. Note 3.

— *it*—Heb. (some) *of it*.

— *they*—i. e. the wicked.

10 *And will &c.*—Compare Ps. ci. 8.

## LXXVI.

2 *Salem*—i. e. Jerusalem.

3 *the arrows*—Heb. *the lightnings of the bow*.

3 *the weapons of war*—Heb. *the battle*.

4 *Excellent &c.*—Thou art become illustrious by having enabled Thy people to gain possession of the fastnesses, in which hostile kings had deposited the spoils, taken by them in war.

5 *their sleep*—i. e. the sleep of death.

— *are become powerless*—Heb. *find not their hands*.

- 7 THOU—Thou art to be feared!  
 Yea, who can stand before Thee, when Thou art angry?
- 8 From heaven Thou proclaimest Thy sentence;  
 The earth feareth, and is still,
- 9 When God ariseth to judgment—  
 To save all the afflicted in the land.
- 10 Truly, the wrath of man doth minister to Thy praise;  
 What remaineth of wrath, Thou wilt restrain.
- 11 Make ye vows unto JEHOVAH your God, and pay them!  
 Let all, who are round about Him,  
 Bring presents unto Him, who is to be feared.
- 12 HE controletH the spirit of princes;  
 HE is to be feared by the kings of the earth!

## PSALM LXXVII.

- 1 WITH my voice unto God—  
 Yea, with my voice unto God do I cry aloud,  
 And may He hearken unto me!
- 2 In the day of my trouble, I seek the Lord;  
 My hand is stretched out by night, and relaxeth not;  
 My soul refuseth to be comforted.
- 3 I call God to mind, but am disturbed!  
 I meditate upon Him, but my spirit is faint!
- 4 THOU holdest mine eyes in wakefulness,  
 I am disquieted, and cannot speak.
- 5 I reflect upon the days of old—  
 The years of ancient times.
- 6 I call to mind my song, in the night,  
 I commune with my heart,  
 And my spirit maketh anxious enquiry:

10 *What remaineth &c.*—i. e. Thou wilt hereafter restrain the wrath of the enemies of Israel, as Thou hast done upon this occasion.

12 *controletH*—Heb. *cutteth off*.  
 LXXVII.

4 *mine eyes in wakefulness*—Heb. *the watchings of mine eyes*.



- 7 Will the Lord reject me for ever?  
And will He be favourable no more?
- 8 Is His loving-kindness come utterly to an end?  
Hath His promise ceased, unto all generations?
- 9 Hath God forgotten to be gracious?  
Hath He, in anger, shut up His tender mercies?
- 10 And I said: It is mine infirmity!  
The years and the right hand of the Most High,
- 11 Will I call to mind, even the works of *ГЕHOBAH*!  
Yea, I will call to mind Thy wonders of old.
- 12 I will think upon all Thine acts,  
And meditate upon Thy doings.
- 13 O God! holy are Thy ways,  
What god is great, as our God?
- 14 THOU art the God, who doest wonders!  
THOU hast made known among the nations Thy might!
- 15 With Thine arm hast Thou redeemed Thy people,  
The sons of Jacob and of Joseph!
- 16 The waters saw Thee, O God!—  
The waters saw Thee, they trembled!  
Yea, the depths were troubled!
- 17 The clouds poured down water,  
The skies uttered their voice;
- 18 Yea, Thine arrows went abroad,  
The sound of Thy thunder was in the whirlwind.
- 19 Lightnings illumined the world;  
The earth was troubled, and it shook!
- 20 THY course was through the sea,

10 *It is mine infirmity*—i. e. My distrust of God's power and goodness arises from my own infirmity.

— *years and the right hand*—Heb. *years of the right hand*—i. e. the various former times and occasions on which God has interposed to save His people.

17 *their voice*—i. e. the thunder. Compare Ps. xxix. 3.

18 *Thine arrows*—i. e. the lightnings.

20 *through the sea*—God's presence, at the passage of the Israelites through the Red Sea, was manifested by the miracle which He then wrought for their deliverance. Compare Ps. cxiv. 3.

And Thy paths, through the mighty waters,  
 Yet Thy footsteps were not seen!  
 21 THOU leddest Thy people, as a flock,  
 By the hand of Moses and of Aaron.

## PSALM LXXVIII.

1 HEARKEN, O my people! unto my teaching,  
 Incline your ear unto the words of my mouth.  
 2 I will open my mouth in parables,  
 I will utter dark sayings, from of old;  
 3 Which we have heard, and do know,  
 And which our fathers have declared unto us.  
 4 We will not hide them from their children;  
 But will declare, to the next generation,  
 The praises of JEHOVAH, and His might,  
 And His wonderful deeds, which He hath done.  
 5 HE established a testimony for Jacob,  
 And made a law for Israel;  
 Which He commanded our fathers  
 To make known unto their children,  
 6 That the next generation might know them—  
 That the children, who should be born, might stand up,  
 And declare them unto their children;  
 7 That they might set their hope in God,  
 And not forget the works of God,  
 But keep His commandments;  
 8 And not be, as were their fathers,  
 A generation backsliding and rebellious—

21 *By the hand*—i. e. By the instrumentality.

## LXXVIII.

2 *I will utter &c.*—The Psalmist here expresses his intention of communicating fully to his countrymen those passages of their ancient history

of which the generality of them, through the lapse of time and their imperfect acquaintance with the national records, were but slightly informed.

5 *testimony*—Compare Ps. xix. 7. Note 1.

- A generation, whose heart was not established,  
 Nor their spirit faithful towards God ;  
 9 As the sons of Ephraim who, armed and shooting with bows,  
 Turned back in the day of battle.
- 10 They kept not the covenant of God,  
 But refused to walk in His law.
- 11 Yea, they forgot His works,  
 Even the wonders, which He had shown unto them.
- 12 In the sight of their fathers, He did wondrous things,  
 In the land of Egypt—in the field of Zoan.
- 13 He divided the sea, and made them to pass through,  
 And He piled up the waters, as a mound.
- 14 In the day-time, He led them by a cloud,  
 And all the night long, by the light of fire.
- 15 He cleft the rocks in the desert,  
 And gave them to drink, as from the great deep.
- 16 Yea, He brought streams out of rocks,  
 And caused the waters to flow down, as rivers.
- 17 Yet they went on to sin against Him,  
 And provoked the Most High in the wilderness.
- 18 They tempted God in their hearts,  
 And asked food for their appetite.
- 19 Yea, they spake against God, they said :  
 “ Can God furnish a table in the desert ?
- 20 “ Behold, He smote the rock,  
 “ And the waters gushed out,  
 “ And the streams flowed plentifully ;  
 “ Can He also give food ?  
 “ Can He provide flesh for His people ?”

10 *They*—i. e. our fathers. See ver. 8.

15 *gave them* &c.—i. e. gave them an abundant supply of water.

18 *They tempted* &c.—They rashly called for the divine interference, by miracle, in their favour (Exod. xvi. and Numbers xi).

- 21 Then JEHOVAH heard, and He was angry,  
And a fire was kindled against Jacob,  
And wrath also arose against Israel;  
22 Because they did not trust in God,  
Nor place their confidence in His salvation.
- 23 HE gave commandment unto the clouds above,  
And opened the doors of heaven.  
24 HE rained upon them manna for food,  
And gave unto them bread from heaven.  
25 Every one did eat the bread of princes,  
HE sent them meat to the full.  
26 HE set in motion the east wind in the heavens,  
And, by His power, He brought the south wind. *bringing it*  
27 HE rained upon them flesh, as dust,  
Yea, winged birds, as the sand of the sea.  
28 HE caused these to fall in the midst of their encampment,  
Round about their habitations.  
29 So they ate, and were fully satisfied,  
For He brought unto them their own desire.  
30 They had not departed from their desire—  
The meat was yet in their mouths—  
31 When the wrath of God arose against them—  
When He slew the goodliest of them,  
And brought low the chosen ones of Israel.  
32 For all this, they sinned yet again,  
And believed not His wondrous works.  
33 Therefore He consumed their days in vanity,  
And their years in terror.

21 *arose*—as smoke from a fire.  
Compare Ps. xviii. 8. Note.

26 *the east wind*—Compare Ps.  
xl. viii. 7. Note 2.

— *south wind*—“And there went  
forth a wind from the Lord and  
brought quails from the sea.” Numb.  
xi. 31. The sea referred to in this  
passage is the Red Sea, which was

to the south. Compare Ps. cvii. 3.  
and Note.

29 *their own desire*—i. e. the object  
of their desire.

31 *chosen ones*—i. e. the young men.

33 *in vanity*—i. e. in an expectation  
of entering into the promised land,  
which was never fulfilled to them.  
Compare Ps. xcv. 11. and Note.

- 34 If He slew them, then they sought Him,  
 And returned quickly unto God.  
 35 They remembered that God was their rock,  
 And the Most High God, their redeemer.  
 36 But they flattered Him with their mouth,  
 And with their tongue they lied unto Him.  
 37 Their heart was not firm with Him,  
 Nor were they faithful to His covenant.  
 38 Yet He was merciful;  
 He forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not.  
 Many a time He turned away His anger,  
 And would not stir up all His fury.  
 39 He remembered that they were but flesh,  
 A breath, which goeth forth, and returneth not!  
 40 How greatly did they provoke Him in the desert!  
 And anger Him in the wilderness!  
 41 Again and again they tempted God,  
 And grieved the Holy One of Israel.  
 42 They called not to mind His hand—  
 The day, when He delivered them from the enemy—  
 43 When He wrought His signs in Egypt,  
 And His wonders in the field of Zoan—  
 44 When He changed their rivers into blood,  
 That they could not drink of their streams—  
 45 When He sent against them the fly, which devoured their land,  
 And frogs, which infested them—

34 *sought Him*—i. e. in earnest supplication.

39 *goeth forth*—Heb. *goeth*. i. e. from the mouth. See Ps. xc. 9. Note 2.

41 *tempted*—Compare ver. 56. Note. — *grieved*—Heb. *caused to repent*.

42 *His hand*—i. e. the power displayed by God on their behalf.

44 *their rivers*—i. e. streams derived from the Nile.

45 *the fly*—"And the LORD did so;

and there came a grievous swarm of *flies* into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt: the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of *flies*." Exod. viii. 24.

45 *devoured their land*—Heb. *devoured them*. i. e. ate the produce of their land.

— *infested them*—Heb. *corrupted them*. i. e. made loathsome their dwellings.

- 46 When He gave their fruits unto the caterpillar,  
And their labour unto the locust—
- 47 When He destroyed their vines with hail,  
And their fig-trees with great hailstones—
- 48 When He gave up their cattle to the hailstorm,<sup>200</sup>  
And their herds unto the lightnings— 1194
- 49 When He sent forth against them the heat of His anger,  
Wrath, and indignation, and trouble—  
A mission of evil messengers!
- 50 When He made a path for His indignation—  
When He spared them not from death,  
But gave up their lives unto the pestilence—
- 51 When He smote every first-born in Egypt,  
The prime of their strength, in the dwellings of Ham; <sup>as Gen. 49:3</sup>
- 52 But caused His own people to go forth, as sheep,  
And guided them through the desert, as a flock.
- 53 He led them in safety, and without fear;  
But the sea overwhelmed their enemies!
- 54 He brought them within His holy boundary—  
Unto this mountain, which His right hand purchased.
- 55 He drove out the heathen before them,  
And allotted them an inheritance, by line; <sup>100 106</sup>  
Yea, He caused the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.
- 56 They tempted and provoked the Most High God,  
And kept not His testimony.
- 57 They turned back and dealt unfaithfully, as their fathers;  
They swerved, as a deceitful bow.

46 *their labour*—i. e. the produce of their toil.

47 *fig-trees*—Heb. *sycamores*.

50 *made*—Heb. *made level*.

51 *dwellings*—Heb. *tents*.

— *Ham*—the son of Noah, from whom the Egyptians derived their origin. "The sons of Ham, Cush and *Misraim*." Gen. x. 6.

54 *this mountain*—Sion.

55 *by line*—i. e. by measurement,

that the land might be justly divided amongst its new possessors, the Israelites.

55 *in their tents*—i. e. in the tents of the heathen.

56 *they tempted*—i. e. they challenged the divine vengeance by their wilful disobedience.

— *testimony*—i. e. revealed word.

57 *They swerved &c.*—Heb. *They were turned (and became) like &c.*

- 58 They angered Him with their high places,  
And moved His jealousy with their graven images.
- 59 God heard this, and He was wroth,  
And greatly abhorred Israel.
- 60 Therefore He rejected His dwelling-place in Shiloh—  
The tabernacle, wherein He had dwelt among men.
- 61 Yea, He surrendered His power into captivity,  
And His splendour into the hand of the enemy.
- 62 He gave up His people unto the sword,  
Yea, He was wroth with His inheritance.
- 63 Fire devoured His young men,  
And His maidens were not praised in bridal song.
- 64 His priests fell by the sword,  
And there were no widows to make lamentation.
- 65 Again the Lord awaked, as one who sleepeth,  
He became as a mighty man, excited by wine.
- 66 He smote His enemies and drove them back,  
He put them to a perpetual disgrace.
- 67 He rejected the tents of Joseph,  
And chose not the tribe of Ephraim;

58 *high places*—upon which they sacrificed to their idols.

59 *heard this*—Heb. *heard*. i. e. perceived this wickedness of his chosen people.

60 *Shiloh*—In the time of Eli, the ark was taken from Shiloh to battle and captured by the Philistines (1 Sam. iv. 4. 10 and 11).

61 *His power*—*His splendour*—These are terms descriptive of the ark of God. "And she named the child Ichabod, saying, *The glory is departed* from Israel: because *the ark of God was taken*, and because of her father-in-law and her husband.

And she said, *The glory is departed* from Israel: for *the ark of God is taken*." 1 Sam. iv. 21, 22. See also Ps. cxxxii. 8.

63 *His young men*—Heb. *His chosen*.

— *were not praised* &c.—i. e. remained unmarried.

64 *And there were* &c.—Heb. *And His widows did not bewail*.

65 *excited by*—Heb. *shouting by reason of*.

66 *He smote* &c.—*He smote His enemies backward*. Compare also Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

- 68 But chose the tribe of Judah,  
Even mount Sion, which He loveth.  
69 And built His sanctuary, as the heavens—  
As the earth, which He hath established for ever.  
70 HE chose also David, His servant,  
And took him from the sheep-folds;  
71 From following the milch-ewes He brought him,  
That he might feed Jacob, His people,  
And Israel, His inheritance.  
72 And he fed them, with integrity of heart,  
Yea, he guided them with a prudent hand.

## PSALM LXXIX.

- 1 O GOD! the heathen are come into Thine inheritance;  
They have defiled Thy holy temple,  
They have made Jerusalem a heap of ruins!  
2 They have given the dead bodies of Thy servants,  
As food, to the birds of heaven—  
The flesh of Thy pious worshippers,  
To the wild beasts of the earth!  
3 They have poured out their blood, as water,  
On all sides of Jerusalem;  
And there is no one to bury them!  
4 We are become a reproach unto those, who dwell near us—  
A scorn and derision to those around us!  
5 How long, O JEHOVAH! wilt Thou be angry?—for ever?  
How long shall Thy jealousy burn, as a fire?

69 the heavens—Heb. the heights  
(of heaven).

71 feed—i. e. rule over.

72 with integrity of heart—Heb.  
according to the integrity of his  
heart.

— with a prudent hand—Heb. with  
the discernment of his hands.

## LXXIX.

2 As food &c.—See ver. 3. Com-  
pare also Ps. Lxiii. 10. Note.

5 Thy jealousy—To understand the  
force of this expression, it is necessary  
to bear in mind, that the relation of  
God to his chosen people is, in scrip-  
ture, frequently compared with that



- 6 Pour out Thy wrath upon the heathen,  
 Who do not acknowledge Thee;  
 And upon the kingdoms,  
 Which call not upon Thy Name.
- 7 For they have devoured Jacob,  
 And laid waste his dwelling-place.
- 8 Bear not in mind against us former iniquities;  
 May Thy tender mercies speedily succour us!  
 For we are greatly enfeebled.
- 9 Help us, O God of our salvation!  
 For the glory of Thy Name;  
 Deliver us, and pardon our sins,  
 For Thy Name's sake.
- 10 Why should the heathen say:  
 "Where is their God?"  
 May vengeance for Thy servants' blood, which is shed,  
 Be shown upon the heathen, in our sight!
- 11 May the groaning of the prisoners come before Thee!  
 By the greatness of Thy power,  
 Preserve Thou those, who are appointed to die.
- 12 Yea, return unto those, who dwell near us,  
 Manifold into their bosom, O Lord!  
 The reproach, wherewith they have reproached Thee.
- 13 But as for us, Thy people,  
 And the sheep of Thy pasture,  
 We will celebrate Thee for ever;  
 Through all generations, we will declare Thy praise!

of the husband to the wife. Compare Ps. lxxiii. 27. and Note. Also Ps. lxxviii. 58.

\* *May Thy &c.*—Heb. *Let Thy loving-kindnesses quickly come before us.*

11 *Thy power*—Heb. *Thine arm.*

12 *manifold*—Heb. *sevenfold.*

— *bosom*—Compare Ps. xxxv. 13. Note 2.

— *the reproach*—the punishment which those reproaches justly deserve at Thy hands.

## PSALM LXXX.

1 O SHEPHERD of Israel, hearken!

Thou, who ledest Joseph, as a flock—

Thou, who sittest enthroned on the Cherubim, shine forth!

2 Before Ephraim, and Benjamin, and Manasseh,

Put forth Thy strength,

And come to our aid!

3 O God! restore us,

Show the light of Thy countenance, that we may be saved!

4 O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts!

How long wilt Thou burn with anger, / 5-6

Against Thy supplicating people?

5 Thou feedest them with the bread of tears,

And givest them tears to drink, in full measure.

6 Thou makest us a strife to those, who dwell near us,

And our enemies have us in derision.

7 O God of Hosts! restore us,

Show the light of Thy countenance, that we may be saved!

8 Thou didst bring a vine out of Egypt,

Thou didst thrust out the heathen, and plant it;

9 Thou didst prepare a place for it,

So that it took deep root,

And filled the land!

10 The mountains were covered with its shade,

And the mighty cedars, with its tendrils!

## LXXX.

1 sittest enthroned—Compare Ps. xviii. 10. and Note.

4 burn with anger—Heb. smoke. Compare Ps. Lxxiv. 1.

—Against &c.—Heb. Against the prayer of thy people.

5 the bread &c.—Through excessive grief they refuse to take their ordinary food. Compare Ps. cii. 4. 9.

6 a strife—i. e. a cause of strife, and division.

9 for it—Heb. before it.

10 The mountains—Lebanon is probably here referred to from the mention of the “mighty cedars.” “The wine of Lebanon” is expressly noticed by Hosea xiv. 7. where a comparison similar to that of this Psalm is instituted.

- 11 It sent forth its boughs unto the sea,  
And its shoots unto the river.
- 12 Why hast Thou broken down its fences,  
So that all, who pass along the way, despoil it?
- 13 The boar out of the forest gnaweth it,  
And the beast of the field browseth upon it.
- 14 Turn now, O God of Hosts!  
Look down from heaven, and behold,  
And have regard unto this vine—
- 15 Even the plant, which Thy right hand hath planted.  
Yea, look upon the son,  
Whom Thou hast made strong for Thyself.
- 16 It is burnt with fire, it is cut down!
- May they perish at the rebuke of Thy countenance!
- 17 May Thy hand be over the man of Thy right hand—  
Over the son of man,  
Whom Thou hast made strong for Thyself!
- 18 So will we not turn back from Thee;  
Revive us, and we will call upon Thy Name.
- 19 O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts! restore us,  
Show the light of Thy countenance, that we may be saved!

11 *sea*—Mediterranean.

— *river*—Euphrates.

12 *despoil it*—Heb. *pluck of it*. i. e. its fruit.

13 It is well known that the wild boar is very destructive to vineyards, as well by eating the grapes as by trampling the vines under foot.

15 *son*—This appellation is here given to the people of Israel collectively, "When Israel was a child

then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt." Hosea xi. 1.

15 *made strong for Thyself*—i. e. raised up to be a great people for Thine especial purposes.

16 *they*—i. e. the enemies who have thus destroyed it.

17 *be over*—to protect him.

— *son of man*—See ver. 15. Note 1.

— *strong &c.*—See ver. 15. Note 2.

## PSALM LXXXI.

- 1 SING aloud unto God, our Strength!  
 Raise a joyful shout unto the God of Jacob!
- 2 Chant a hymn, and strike the timbrel—  
 The sweet harp, with the lute.
- 3 Blow the trumpet, at the new moon,  
 At the stated time, on our solemn feast-day.
- 4 For this is a statute unto Israel—  
 An ordinance of the God of Jacob.
- 5 HE appointed it for a testimony unto Joseph,  
 When He went forth against the land of Egypt,  
 Where I heard a language, which I understood not.
- 6 "I removed his shoulder from the burden,  
 "His hands were relieved from the panniers.
- 7 "Thou didst call in distress, and I rescued Thee;  
 "Shrouded in a thunder-cloud, I answered thee.  
 "I proved thee at the waters of Meribah.
- 8 "Hear, O my people!  
 "And I will warn thee.  
 "O that thou, Israel, wouldest hearken unto Me!
- 9 "Let no strange god be with thee,  
 "Neither bow down unto the god of the stranger.

## LXXXI.

2 *Chant*—Heb. *take*. i. e. upon your lips.

3 *the new moon*—Compare Numb. x. 10.

5 *unto Joseph*—i. e. unto His chosen people.

— *He went forth*—to destroy the first-born.

— *I heard*—i. e. the Israelites collectively heard. Compare Ps. cxiv. 1.

— *language*—Heb. *lip*.

— *I understood not*—Compare Ps. cxiv. 1.

6 The remaining verses contain the

words of the Almighty.

6 *His hands &c.*—i. e. He was relieved from the hard tasks, imposed by the Egyptians.

— *relieved*—Heb. *transferred*.

7 *Shrouded in a thunder cloud*—Heb. *In the secret place of thunder*. Compare Ps. xviii. 11.

— *I answered thee*—"And it came to pass, that in the morning-watch the LORD looked unto the host of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and of the cloud, and troubled the host of the Egyptians." Exod. xiv. 24. See also Ps. xcix. 6, 7.

10 " I am JEHOVAH, thy God!

" Who brought thee up from the land of Egypt.

" Open wide thy mouth, and I will fill it.

11 " But My people hearkened not unto My voice—

" Israel was not willing to obey Me.

12 " So I gave them up to the obstinacy of their hearts;

" They walked, according to their own counsels.

13 " O that My people had hearkened unto Me!

" That Israel had walked in My paths!

14 " Soon would I have brought low their enemies,

" I would have turned My hand against their adversaries.

15 " The haters of JEHOVAH

" Should have made a show of submission to Him;

" But their time should have endured for ever.

16 " HE would have fed him also with the finest wheat,

" And with honey from the rock would I have filled thee."

10 *open wide* &c.—The Almighty here promises to his chosen people, if they would but attend to His instructions, the greatest abundance. See ver. 16.

13 In this and the following verses, the Psalmist holds out the obstinacy of their forefathers as a warning to the Israelites of his time. Compare

Ps. xcv. 8, 9.

13 *made a show of submission* &c.—Compare Ps. LXvi. 3. Note.

— *their time*—i. e. the season of Israel's prosperity.

16 *him*—i. e. Israel.

— *thee*—It is scarcely necessary to observe, that Israel is here also referred to.

## PSALM LXXXII.

1 GOD standeth up in the assembly of the mighty  
Amidst the gods He pronounceth judgment:

2 "How long will ye judge unjustly,

"And respect the persons of the wicked?

3 "Give ye sentence for the poor, and the orphan,

"Do justice to the afflicted, and the needy. *do not be guided by the*

4 "Deliver ye the indigent, and the poor, *needy*

"Rescue them, from the hand of the wicked."

5 "They know not, neither do they understand;

"They walk in darkness!

"All the foundations of the earth are moved!

6 "As for Me, I have said: Ye are gods!

"Yea, ye are all the children of the Most High!

7 "But ye shall die like men,

"And fall like other princes."

8 Arise, O God! judge Thou the earth;

For Thou art the rightful possessor of all nations.

## LXXXII.

The subject and language of this Psalm are very similar to those of Psalm LXXV.

1 *standeth up*—in order to pass sentence. "The LORD *standeth up* to plead, and *standeth to judge* the people." Isai. iii. 13.

—*themighty*—"The LORD will enter into judgment with the ancients of his people, and the princes thereof: for ye have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses." Isai. iii. 14.

—*Amidst the gods*—i. e. upon the judges (the representatives of God) who are assembled around His tribunal for the purpose of receiving their sentence at His mouth. Compare Ps. vii. 7.

1 This and the five following verses

are the words of God. Compare Ps. L. Ps. LXXV. 2, 3.

2 *respect the persons*—i. e. be biassed, in your decision, by the worldly condition of the parties, and not be guided by the real merits of the case.

5 *They &c.*—i. e. These judges pay no regard to the principles of equity; they shut their eyes to the light of truth.

—*know not*—"O heads of Jacob and ye princes of the house of Israel, Is it not for you to know judgment?" Micah iii. 1.

—*foundations*—See Ps. xi. 3. Note 1. and Ps. LXXV. 3. Note 2.

7 *like other princes*—Heb. *like one of the princes*—i. e. like those princes who have not been designated with such high titles as those contained in ver. 6.

## PSALM LXXXIII.

- 1 O God! keep not silence,  
 Hold not Thy peace, be not still, O God!  
 2 For behold, Thine enemies make a tumult,  
 And those, who hate Thee, lift up their heads.  
 3 Against Thy people, do they craftily take counsel, § 10  
 And consult together, against Thy treasured ones.  
 4 "Come," say they, "and let us cut them off,  
 "That they be no more a nation;  
 "And let the name of Israel  
 "Be no longer remembered."  
 5 Truly, they consult together with one mind;  
 Against Thee, are confederate  
 6 The tents of Edom, and the Ishmaelites,  
 Moab, and the Hagarenes;  
 7 Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek,  
 The Philistines, with the inhabitants of Tyre.  
 8 The Assyrian also, is joined unto them;  
 He helpeth the sons of Lot.  
 9 Do Thou to them, as unto Midian,  
 As unto Sisera and Jabin, near the brook of Kishon.  
 10 They perished at Endor,  
 They became dung for the earth!  
 11 Make them, even their chiefs, like Oreb and like Zeeb,  
 Yea, all their princes, like Zebah and Salmunna;  
 12 Who say: "Let us take, into our possession,  
 "The habitations of God!"

## LXXXIII.

- 3 *treasured ones*—Compare Ps. xvii.  
 14. Note 3.  
 5 *are confederate*—Heb. *have cut a covenant*.  
 6 *Hagarenes*—Compare 1 Chron. v. 10.

8 *He helpeth*—Heb. *he is an arm*.  
 — *the sons of Lot*—Moab and Ammon.

9 *Midian &c.* See Judg. vii.

— *Sisera—Jabin*—See Judg. iv.

12 *the habitations of God*—i. e. the dwellings of a people, especially under the protection of God.

- 13 O my God! make them as chaff—  
 As stubble before the wind!  
 14 As fire consumeth the forest,  
 And as the flame setteth the mountains in a blaze,  
 15 So do Thou pursue them, with Thy tempest, 150  
 And confound them, with Thy whirlwind.  
 16 Cover their faces with shame;  
 That men may seek Thy Name, O JEHOVAH!  
 17 Let them be put to shame, and confounded for ever,  
 Let them be brought to confusion, and perish;  
 18 That men may know that Thou, whose Name is JEHOVAH,  
 Art alone the Most High, over all the earth.

## PSALM LXXXIV.

- 1 HOW lovely is Thy dwelling place,  
 O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts!  
 2 My soul longeth, yea, it pineth for the courts of JEHOVAH,  
 My heart and my flesh cry aloud unto the living God.  
 3 Even the sparrow findeth for herself a house,  
 And the swallow a nest, wherein she placeth her young,  
 Even Thine altars, O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts!  
 My King and my God!  
 4 Happy those, who dwell in Thy House!  
 They are continually praising Thee!  
 5 Happy the men, whose strength is in Thee!  
 In their hearts are the paths to the sanctuary!

13 *chaff*—Heb. *any small particle whirled about by the wind.*

14 *the flame*—of lightning.  
 — *the mountains*—i. e. the trees &c.  
 upon the mountains.

16 *cover*—Heb. *fill.*

## LXXXIV.

3 *Even the sparrow &c.* — The

Psalmist holds this language to point out the hardship of his own condition, when debarred from having access to the house of God.

3 *Thine altars*—i. e. in the immediate neighbourhood of Thine altars.

5 *the paths to the sanctuary*—Heb. *the raised causeways* (which lead to the house of God).



- 6 Passing through the vale of tears,  
 They make it into springs;  
 Yea, the early rain covereth it with blessings.
- 7 They go on from strength to strength;  
 Every one appeareth before God, in Sion.
- 8 O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts! hear my prayer,  
 Hearken, O God of Jacob!
- 9 Behold, O God, our shield!  
 And look upon the face of Thine anointed.
- 10 Truly, a day, in Thy courts, is better than a thousand;  
 I would rather be a door-keeper in the House of my God,  
 Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- 11 For JEHOVAH-GOD is a sun and a shield,  
 JEHOVAH giveth favour and glory;  
 HE withholdeth no good thing,  
 From those, who walk uprightly.
- 12 O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts!  
 Happy the man, who placeth his confidence in Thee!

6 *the vale of tears*—This represents a barren and parched district, and the Psalmist goes on to say that, whatever be the sufferings of those who place their reliance upon Jehovah, they will find in that reliance, consolation and refreshment.

— *make it*—i. e. by the efficacy of their prayers. Compare Ps. cvii. 35, 36.

— *the early rain*—This is the rain which fell in the season of autumn.

7 *from strength to strength*—i. e. they become continually stronger, as they approach towards Sion, the object of their desire.

10 *Truly, a day &c.*—i. e. One day, spent in Thy courts, is better than a thousand, spent elsewhere.

— *door-keeper*—Compare 1 Chron. ix. 26, 27.

11 *a sun*—the source of light and joy. “The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee: but the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.” Isai. lx. 19.

— *He withholdeth no good thing from &c.*—i. e. He giveth liberally all good things to &c. Compare Ps. cxix. 85. Note 2.

## PSALM LXXXV.

- 1 THOU didst show favour unto Thy land, O JEHOVAH!  
 THOU didst bring back the captive sons of Jacob.
- 2 THOU didst pardon the iniquity of Thy people,  
 THOU didst forgive all their sin.
- 3 THOU didst take away all Thine indignation,  
 THOU didst turn from the heat of Thine anger.
- 4 Restore us, O God of our salvation!  
 And withdraw Thine indignation from us. *meditation*
- 5 Wilt Thou be angry with us, for ever?  
 Wilt Thou continue Thine anger, to all generations?
- 6 Wilt Thou not again revive us,  
 That Thy people may rejoice in Thee?
- 7 Show us Thy loving-kindness, O JEHOVAH!  
 And grant unto us Thy salvation.
- 8 May I hear what GOD-JEHOVAH announceth!  
 For He announceth prosperity,  
 Unto His people, even unto His pious worshippers; *to those who fear Him*  
 Only, let them not turn back unto wickedness.
- 9 Truly, His salvation is nigh unto those, who reverence Him,  
 That glory may dwell in our land!
- 10 Loving-kindness and faithfulness meet together,  
 Benevolence and peace kiss each other.
- 11 Faithfulness springeth up out of the earth,  
 And benevolence looketh down from heaven.
- 12 Yea, JEHOVAH giveth prosperity,  
 And our land yieldeth her increase.
- 13 Benevolence advanceth before Him,  
 And He placeth His footsteps in the way.

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## LXXXV.

1 *the captive sons*—Heb. *the captivity*.

2 *forgive*—Heb. *cover*. See Ps. xxxii. 1.

4 The Psalmist goes on to pray that God, who had on former occa-

sions done so great things for his people, would now again restore them.

8 *wickedness*—Heb. *folly*.

9 *glory*—the glorious manifestation of the divine presence.

10 In this and the following verses

## PSALM LXXXVI.

- 1 O JEHOVAH! incline Thine ear, and answer me,  
For I am afflicted, and destitute.
- 2 Preserve my life,  
For I am Thy pious worshipper;  
Save Thy servant, O Thou, my God!  
Who placeth his confidence in Thee.
- 3 Be gracious unto me, O Lord!  
For unto Thee do I cry, all the day long.
- 4 Gladden the soul of Thy servant,  
For unto Thee, O Lord! do I lift up my soul.
- 5 For Thou, O Lord! art good, and ready to forgive,  
Yea, plenteous in loving-kindness to all, who call upon Thee.
- 6 Hearken, O JEHOVAH! to my prayer,  
And attend unto the voice of my supplication.
- 7 In the day of my trouble, do I cry unto Thee,  
Because Thou art wont to answer me.
- 8 Among the gods, there is none like unto Thee, O Lord!  
Nor are there any works like Thine!
- 9 All the nations, whom Thou hast made, shall enter,  
And bow down before Thee, O Lord!  
Yea, they shall glorify Thy Name.
- 10 For Thou art great, and doest wondrous works,  
Thou alone art God!
- 11 Teach me Thy way, O JEHOVAH!  
That I may walk according to Thy truth.

the happy influences of God's favour and presence are beautifully described.

13 *advanceth*—Thus in Ps. LXXXIX. 14, "Loving-kindness and faithfulness go before Thy face."

— *placeth His footsteps in the way*—i. e. moves forward, to show His

salvation unto Israel. The steps of God are represented as attended with blessings to His chosen people. Compare Ps. LXXV. 11. Note.

LXXXVI.

9 *enter*—i. e. into the courts of the temple.

Give me singleness of heart,  
That I may reverence Thy Name.

12 I will <sup>and</sup> praise Thee, O Lord, my God! with my whole heart,  
And I will glorify Thy Name for ever;

13 For Thy loving-kindness towards me is great,  
Yea, Thou hast rescued me, from the grave beneath.

14 O God! the proud rise up against me,  
And bands of violent men seek my life. *congregation 903*  
They set not Thee before their eyes!

15 But Thou, O Lord! art a merciful and gracious God,  
Long-suffering, and plenteous in loving-kindness and truth.

16 Turn towards me, and be gracious to me;  
Give Thy strength unto Thy servant,  
And save the son of Thy handmaid.

17 Show unto me a token of good,  
That those, who hate me, may see, and be ashamed,  
Because Thou, JEHOVAH! dost help me, and comfort me.

### PSALM LXXXVII.

1 HIS foundation is upon the holy mountains!

2 JEHOVAH loveth the gates of Sion,  
More than all the dwellings of Jacob!

3 Glorious things are announced of thee,  
O city of God!

4 "I will record Rahab and Babylon,

11 *Give me singleness of heart—*  
Heb. *Make one my heart.*

14 *bands—*Heb. *a company.*

16 *Give Thy strength &c.—i. e.*  
Empower thy servant to maintain his  
rightful cause against his violent ad-  
versaries.

— *son of Thy handmaid.—i. e.* Thy  
servant. The children of a female

slave belonged of right to her master.

17 *a token of good—i. e.* some visible  
mark of grace and favour.

### LXXXVII.

1 *His foundation—i. e.* The city  
founded by Jehovah.

3 *Glorious things—*See vv. 4, 5.

4 *Rahab—*Egypt.

" Among those, who acknowledge Me.

" Behold, Philistia, and Tyre, with Ethiopia—

" These shall be born there."

5 Yea, of Sion it is said:

" Divers nations shall be born in her!"

And, " He, who establisheth her, is the Most High!"

6 JEHOVAH shall enrol them, when He numbereth His people:

" These shall be born there."

7 And they, singing and dancing, shall say:

" All the fountains of my delight are in thee."

### PSALM LXXXVIII.

1 O JEHOVAH, God of my salvation!

Daily do I cry aloud,

Yea, by night, before Thee!

2 Let my prayer come before Thee,

Incline Thine ear unto my cry.

3 For my soul is full of misery,

And my life vergeth to the grave.

4 I am counted with those, who are going down into the pit,

I am as a man, who hath no strength; *וְאֵין כֹּחַ*

5 As the dead, I am discarded—

As the slain, who lie down in the grave,

Whom Thou rememberest no more,

And who are cut off from Thy protection.

4 *These*—Heb. *This*. i. e. each of the inhabitants of the countries just enumerated.

— *be born there*—i. e. become proselytes in Sion, and be admitted to the privileges of the true worshippers of Jehovah.

5 *Divers nations*—Heb. *man and man*.

6 *enrol them*—i. e. include these various nations in the class of His worshippers.

7 *And they, singing and dancing, shall say*—Heb. *And singers with dancers*. In this manner, the nations, when become proselytes, express their joy.

— *the fountains of my delight*—Heb. *my fountains*.

— *thee*—i. e. Sion.

### LXXXVIII.

3 *vergeth to*—Heb. *toucheth on*.

5 *discarded*—Heb. *set free*.

— *Thy protection*—Heb. *Thy hand*.

- 6 THOU hast placed me in the pit beneath—  
In darkness—in the deep.
- 7 THINE indignation resteth upon me,  
And Thou afflictest me, with all Thy waves.
- 8 THOU hast removed mine acquaintance, far from me,  
THOU hast made me an abomination, unto them.  
I am shut up, and cannot go forth.
- 9 Mine eye is wasted by reason of mine affliction;  
I call upon Thee, O JEHOVAH! every day,  
I spread forth my hands unto Thee.
- 10 Wilt Thou do wonders, for the dead?  
Or will the departed rise up, and praise Thee? *Heb.*
- 11 Shall Thy loving-kindness be declared, in the grave?  
THY faithfulness, in the regions of death?
- 12 Shall Thy wonders be made known, in the darkness?  
And Thy righteousness, in the land of forgetfulness?
- 13 As for me, unto Thee, O JEHOVAH! do I cry;  
Yea, in the morning doth my prayer come before Thee. *Ps. 108*
- 14 Why, O JEHOVAH! dost Thou reject me?  
Why dost Thou hide Thy face from me?
- 15 I am afflicted, yea, expiring, *Expiring, faint, &c.*  
Because Thou shakest me off!  
I suffer Thy terrors! I am distracted!
- 16 THY wrath passeth over me,  
THY terrors utterly destroy me!
- 17 They encompass me, as water, all the day,  
They altogether surround me!
- 18 THOU hast removed my lovers and friends far from me,  
Mine acquaintance are withholden from me.

7 waves—Heb. *breakers*. i. e. calamities. Compare Ps. xlii. 7. Note.

9 spread &c.—as an earnest suppliant for Thy favour.

10 the departed—Heb. *the shades* or *manes*.

15 because &c.—Heb. *from being shaken off*. Compare Ps. cix. 23. and Ps. cxxxvi. 15.

16 passeth over me—as a flood to overwhelm me. See ver. 17.

## PSALM LXXXIX.

- 1 I WILL ever sing the loving-kindness of JEHOVAH;  
To all generations will I tell of Thy faithfulness!
- 2 Truly, I say: Thy loving-kindness is made firm for ever;  
As the heavens, dost Thou establish Thy faithfulness.
- 3 "I have made a covenant with My chosen one,  
"I have sworn unto David, My servant;
- 4 "For ever, will I establish thy seed,  
"And make firm thy throne, to all generations."
- 5 The heavens praise Thy wonders, O JEHOVAH!  
Yea, the holy ones in their assembly, Thy faithfulness.
- 6 For who, in the clouds, is to be compared with JEHOVAH?  
Who is like unto JEHOVAH, among the sons of the mighty?
- 7 God is greatly to be feared, in the council of the holy ones,  
And to be had in reverence, above all, who are around Him.
- 8 O JEHOVAH, God of Hosts!  
Who is strong like unto Thee, O JEHOVAH?  
And Thy faithfulness is round about Thee!
- 9 Thou hast dominion over the swelling of the sea;  
When the waves thereof arise, Thou stillest them.
- 10 Thou didst crush Rahab, as one mortally wounded;  
With Thy mighty arm, didst Thou scatter Thine enemies.
- 11 Thine are the heavens, Thine also is the earth,  
The world, and all, which it containeth.  
Thou hast founded them!

## LXXXIX.

1 tell of—Heb. *make known with my mouth.*

— To all generations—Compare Ps. lxxi. 18.

2 made firm—Heb. *built up.*

— the heavens—Compare Ps. cxix. 119. and Note.

3 Compare 2 Sam. vii. 12.

5 heavens—Heb. *the inhabitants of heaven.* Compare Ps. l. 4. 6.

— Yea, the holy ones &c.—Heb. *Yea, Thy faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones.*

— holy ones—i. e. angels.

6 sons of the mighty—inhabitants of heaven. Compare Ps. xxix. 1.

8 round about—as a garment.

10 Rahab—Egypt.

- 12 Thou hast created the north and the south,  
Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Thy Name.
- 13 Thou hast a mighty arm,  
Strong is Thy hand, and high is Thy right hand!
- 14 Righteousness and equity are the foundation of Thy throne,  
Loving-kindness and faithfulness go before Thy face.
- 15 Happy the people,  
Who know the sound of the trumpet!  
They walk in the light of Thy countenance, O JEHOVAH!
- 16 They rejoice in Thy Name, all the day long,  
And are exalted, through Thy benevolence!
- 17 For Thou art their glory and strength, *Beauty Y. 1354*  
Yea, through Thy favour, is our horn exalted.
- 18 For JEHOVAH is our shield,  
Yea, the Holy One of Israel is our King. *Ps 5*
- 19 Once Thou didst speak, in vision, to Thy holy one, *gathering of people*  
And saidst: "I have laid help on one, who is mighty,  
"I have exalted one, chosen out of the people.

12 *rejoice in Thy Name*—i. e. Owing to the fertility with which Thou hast blessed them, these "hills are girded with gladness" (Ps. Lxv. 12). Hermon is noticed (Ps. cxxxiii. 3.) as being well-watered and fruitful. Travellers uniformly give the same character to Mount Tabor also. Tabor from its geographical position represents the *west* and Hermon the *east*.

13 *high &c.*—i. e. superior to every adversary. Compare ver. 42.

14 *Righteousness &c.*—i. e. Thou judgest righteously and equitably. Compare Ps. xlv. 6, 7. and Ps. xcvi. 2.

— *go before*—i. e. attend Thee. Compare Ps. lxxxv. 13. and Note 2.

15 *know*—i. e. are familiar with.

15 *the sound of the trumpet*—inviting them to join in the celebration of their religious observances. "Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of *blowing of trumpets*, an holy convocation." Levit. xxiii. 24.

— *They walk &c.*—i. e. They are blessed through Thy favour. Compare Ps. xxxvi. 9. Note 2.

17 *their glory and strength*—Heb. *the glory of their strength*.

— *horn*—Compare Ps. xv. 2. Note 2.

19 *Thy holy one*—probably the Prophet Nathan. Compare 2 Sam. vii.

— *laid help on &c.*—i. e. enabled him to render assistance.



- 20 " I have found David, My servant.  
 " With My holy oil have I anointed him.  
 21 " My hand shall firmly sustain him,  
 " Yea, Mine arm shall strengthen him.  
 22 " His enemy shall not exact tribute from him,  
 " Nor shall the wicked man afflict him.  
 23 " I will beat down his adversaries before him,  
 " And smite those, who hate him.  
 24 " My faithfulness and My loving-kindness shall be with him,  
 " And, in My Name, shall his horn be exalted.  
 25 " I will cause his hand to reach unto the sea,  
 " And his right hand, unto the great river.  
 26 " He shall call to Me:  
 " Thou art my Father,  
 " My God, and the rock of my salvation!  
 27 " Yea, I will make him My first-born,  
 " The highest of the kings of the earth.  
 28 " For ever will I retain My loving-kindness towards him,  
 " And My covenant with him shall stand firm.  
 29 " I will make his seed to continue for ever,  
 " And his throne as lasting as the heavens.  
 30 " If his sons forsake My law,  
 " And walk not according to My judgments—  
 31 " If they break My statutes,  
 " And keep not My commandments;  
 32 " I will punish their transgression with a rod,  
 " And their iniquity with stripes.  
 33 " Yet will I not withdraw My loving-kindness from him,  
 " Nor deal falsely, against My faithfulness.

20 *anointed*. Compare Ps. ii. 6. Note 2.

21 *firmly sustain*—Heb. *shall be firm with*.

25 I will extend his dominion over the whole country lying between the Mediterranean sea and the river Eu-

phrates. Compare Ps. Lxxii. 8. Note. and Ps. Lxxx. 11.

25 *cause to reach*—Heb. *set*.

27 *first-born*—Compare Ps. ii. 7.

29 *as lasting as*—Heb. *as the days of*.

32 *punish*—Heb. *visit*, i. e. judicially.

- 34 "I will not break My covenant,  
 "Nor alter what is gone forth from My lips.
- 35 "I have sworn once by My holiness:  
 "I will not deal falsely towards David.
- 36 "His seed shall endure for ever,  
 "And his throne, as the sun, before Me.
- 37 "As the moon, shall it be established for ever,  
 "And as the faithful witness, in the heavens."
- 38 But Thou dost cast off and reject—  
 Thou art wroth with Thine anointed.
- 39 Thou abhorrest the covenant with Thy servant, *i.e. the cov. w<sup>th</sup> David*  
 Thou castest his crown to the ground, and profanest it.
- 40 Thou breakest down all his fences,  
 Thou makest his fortresses <sup>601</sup> a ruin.
- 41 All, who pass along the way, <sup>351</sup> plunder him,  
 He is become a reproach unto his neighbours.
- 42 Thou exaltest the right hand of his adversaries,  
 Thou causest all his enemies to rejoice.
- 43 Yea, Thou turnest back the edge of his sword, *note: 1369*  
 And enablest him not to stand in the battle.
- 44 Thou bringest his splendour to an end, *then only*  
 And hurlest his throne to the ground.
- 45 Thou shortenest the days of his youth  
 Thou clothest him with shame.
- 46 How long, O JEHOVAH! wilt Thou hide Thyself?—for ever?  
 How long shall Thy wrath burn, as fire?

35 *once*—i. e. once for all, irrevocably.

— *by My holiness*—i. e. by Myself. Compare Gen. xxii. 16.

37 *faithful witness*—i. e. the rainbow. "And God said, This is the token of the covenant which I make between me and you, and every living creature that is with you, for perpetual generations. I do set *my bow in the cloud*, and it shall be *for a token of*

a covenant between me and the earth." Gen. ix. 12, 13.

39 *the covenant &c.*—Heb. *the covenant of Thy servant*, i. e. the covenant which Thou hast made with Thy servant.

— *castest his crown &c.*—See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

41 *a reproach*—i. e. an object of reproach.

- 47 Remember how short is my life—  
 How vain are all men, whom Thou hast created!
- 48 What man liveth, who shall not see death—  
 Who shall deliver himself from the power of the grave?
- 49 O Lord! where are Thy loving-kindnesses, which were of old?  
 Thou didst swear unto David by Thy faithfulness!
- 50 Remember, O Lord! the reproach cast upon Thy servant—  
 How I bear in my bosom the reproach of all the people;
- 51 Wherewith Thine enemies reproach, O JEHOVAH!—  
 Wherewith they reproach the steps of Thine anointed!
- 52 Blessed be JEHOVAH for ever!  
 AMEN and AMEN!

## PSALM XC.

- 1 O LORD! Thou hast been our refuge,  
 Throughout all generations!
- 2 Before the mountains were brought forth—  
 Yea, before the earth and the world were formed—  
 Even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God!
- 3 Thou causest man to return unto dust,  
 Thou sayest: "Return, ye children of Adam!"

47 *How vain &c.*—Heb. *unto what vanity Thou hast created all the sons of Adam!* The Psalmist urges the shortness of human life, as a ground for God's not continuing any longer to be angry with him, inasmuch as the opportunity of his enjoying the divine favour, in this world, is rapidly passing away.

50 *cast upon*—Heb. *of*.

51 *reproach the steps of*—i. e. pursue with revilings.

52 The third book of the Psalms terminates with this doxology. Compare Ps. xli. 13. Note.

## XC.

3 *Return*—to the dust whence ye were taken. "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." Gen. iii. 19.

- 4 Truly, a thousand years, in Thine eyes—  
They are as yesterday, when it is past,  
Yea, as a watch of the night!
- 5 THOU overweldest them, they sleep!  
They are like grass, which reviveth in the morning—
- 6 Which in the morning flourisheth and is green,  
In the evening is cut off, and withereth!
- 7 For we consume away, through Thine anger,  
And are confounded, through Thy wrath.
- 8 THOU settest our iniquities before Thee—  
Our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance.
- 9 Truly, all our days decline, through Thy wrath,  
We bring our years to an end, as a breath!
- 10 As for the days of our years,  
They are threescore years and ten,  
Or, if we be strong, fourscore years.  
And the pride of them is trouble and affliction! *vanity. 30*  
Of a truth, it quickly passeth, and we are gone!
- 11 Who regardeth the force of Thine anger? *strength*  
Who, with reverential fear, Thy wrath?

4 *watch of the night*—The Jews divided the night into portions, called "watches."

5 *overwhelmest*—as a torrent.

— *them*—i. e. the race of men.  
Compare ver. 3.

— *they sleep*—Heb. *They become a sleep*. i. e. they die. Compare Ps. xiii. 3.

7 *we*—i. e. the whole human race.

8 *secret sins*—i. e. those most carefully concealed from the eye of man.

9 *decline*—i. e. draw rapidly to a close, as the day, when the sun is descending. Compare Ps. cii. 11. Note. and Ps. cix. 23.

— *as a breath*—which is quickly

dissipated. "—remember that my life is wind." Job vii. 7. "What is your life? It is even a vapour that appeareth for a little time and then vanisheth away." James iv. 14. Compare Ps. lxxviii. 39. Ps. cii. 3.

10 *strong*—Heb. *in great strength* (of body).

— *the pride of them*—i. e. that portion of our short existence to which we attach the greatest value. Compare Ps. xxxix. 5.

— *it*—i. e. life.

11 The Psalmist here passionately laments the general indifference of mankind to the fearful consequences of God's anger.

- 12 So teach us to number our days,  
That we may have an understanding heart!
- 13 Turn, O JEHOVAH!—how long—?  
Have compassion upon Thy servants!
- 14 Satisfy us early with Thy loving-kindness,  
That we may sing and rejoice, all our days!
- 15 Gladden us according to the days,  
Wherein Thou hast afflicted us—  
According to the years,  
Wherein we have seen adversity.
- 16 Let Thy deeds appear unto Thy servants,  
And Thy glory unto their children.
- 17 Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us;  
And establish for us the work of our hands,  
Yea, establish the work of our hands!

## PSALM XCI.

- 1 HE, who sitteth under the shelter of the most High—  
Who abideth under the shadow of the Almighty—  
He saith unto JEHOVAH:  
2 "Thou art my refuge and my fortress!—  
"My God, in whom I place my trust!"
- 3 Truly, He will deliver thee,

12 *have &c.*—Heb. *bring in a heart of wisdom.*

15 *Turn*—from Thine indignation. This and the following verses were probably added during the Babylonish captivity.

— *how long*—i. e. how long wilt Thou be angry?

17 *favour*—Heb. *sweetness, agreeableness.*

## XCI.

1 *under the shelter*—Heb. *in the secret place.*

2 *Thou art my &c.*—Heb. *my &c.* See ver. 9.

2 *my trust*—The Psalmist here represents the godly man as being ready at all times to declare his entire dependence, for safety and happiness, upon the protection and favour of the Almighty.

3 In this and the next following verses the Psalmist addresses himself to the godly man, whose faith had been described in verses 1 and 2, and assures him, that he can in no wise be disappointed of his hope.

— *deliver thee*—as a bird. Compare Ps. cxxiv. 7. The same image is continued in the next verse, in which the mother bird is referred to.

- 558
- From the snare of the fowler,  
 And from the destroying plague. *mischievous as V. 9 754*
- 4 With His feathers will He cover thee,  
 And under His wings shalt thou find refuge; <sup>447</sup> *the long shield 1075*  
 His faithfulness shall be thy shield and buckler. *Buckler (see 875)*
- 5 Thou shalt not be affrighted at the terrors of the night—  
 At the arrow, which flieth by day—
- 6 At the plague, which walketh in the darkness—  
 At the pestilence, which destroyeth at noon-day.
- 7 Though a thousand fall at thy side,  
 Yea, ten thousand at thy right hand,  
 It shall not reach unto thee.
- 8 Thou shalt only behold with thine eyes,  
 And see the recompense of the wicked.
- 9 "Truly Thou, O JEHOVAH! art my refuge!"
- Thou makest the Most High thy shelter;
- 10 There shall no evil happen unto thee,  
 Nor any stroke of calamity come nigh unto thy tent. *743*
- 11 For He shall give His angels charge concerning thee,  
 To guard thee in all thy ways.
- 12 In their hands shall they bear thee up,  
 Lest thou strike thy foot against a stone.
- 13 Upon the lion and the adder shalt thou tread,  
 Thou shalt trample upon the young lion and the serpent.
- 14 "Because he setteth his affection upon Me,  
 "I will deliver him; *not from on high 1197*

4 feathers—Compare Ps. xvii. 8. Note 2.

5 not be affrighted—i. e. be under no apprehension. Compare Ps. iv. 8.

7 It—i. e. the plague or pestilence.

8 only behold &c.—i. e. Thou shalt look on, in perfect security, and witness the punishment inflicted upon the wicked.

9 Truly &c.—This line is to be

ascribed to the person introduced as speaking in ver. 2. The Psalmist's second address to this same person immediately follows.

13 tread—i. e. be victorious over.

— young lion—See Ps. xvii. 12. Note.

14 The Psalmist, in this and the two following verses, introduces the words of God.

- “ I will defend him,  
 “ Because he owneth My Name.  
 15 “ When he calleth upon Me, I will answer him,  
 “ I will be with him in trouble;  
 “ I will rescue him, and bring him to honour.  
 16 “ With length of days will I satisfy him,  
 “ And I will show him My salvation.”

## PSALM XCII.

- 1 IT is good to sing praises unto JEHOVAH,  
 And to hymn unto Thy Name, O Most High!—  
 2 To proclaim Thy loving-kindness in the morning,  
 And Thy faithfulness in the night-season;  
 3 Upon a ten-stringed instrument, and upon the lute,  
 Upon the psaltery, with the harp.  
 4 For Thou gladdenest me, O JEHOVAH! by Thy doings!  
 I will sing aloud of the works of Thy hands!  
 5 How great are Thy works, O JEHOVAH!  
 How very profound are Thy counsels!  
 6 An ignorant man doth not know—  
 Nor doth a fool understand this.  
 7 Though the wicked spring up, as the grass,  
 And all the workers of iniquity flourish;  
 They shall be destroyed for ever!  
 8 But Thou, O JEHOVAH! dwellest on high for evermore!  
 9 For behold, Thine enemies, O JEHOVAH!—  
 For behold, Thine enemies perish!  
 All the workers of iniquity are scattered!

## XCII.

1 *good*—i. e. the part of a rightly disposed mind, and conducive to holy joy.

2 *To proclaim &c.*—This relates, probably, to the appointed times of

morning and evening sacrifice.

3 *psaltery*—Heb. *Higgaion*.

5 *profound*—Compare Ps. xxxvi. 6. Note 3.

6 *this*—i. e. the vast depth of God's thoughts. Compare Ps. xciv. 7, 8.

- 10 But Thou exaltest my horn, as the horns of the bull;  
 I am <sup>anointed</sup> with fresh oil.
- 11 Mine eye looketh upon the fall of mine enemies—  
 Of those, who rise up against me;  
 Mine ears hear the condemnation of the wicked.
- 12 The righteous shoot forth, as the palm tree;  
 They grow up, as the cedar of Lebanon.
- 13 Planted in the house of JEHOVAH,  
 They flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 Even in old age, they send forth shoots,  
 They are full of sap, and are green.
- 15 Thus do they proclaim that JEHOVAH, my rock, is upright,  
 And that there is no iniquity in Him. 572, an 18:2

## PSALM XCIII.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigneth! He is clothed—  
 JEHOVAH is clothed with majesty!  
 He is girded with strength!  
 Yea, the world is firmly fixed, it cannot be moved!

- 2 THY throne is established, from of old!  
 THOU art from everlasting!

- 3 O JEHOVAH! the floods lift up—  
 The floods lift up their voice;  
 The floods lift up their tumultuous roar!

- 4 JEHOVAH, on high, is mightier a. 5. abundant  
 Than the voices of many waters—  
 Than the mighty waves of the sea!

10 *my horn*—Compare Ps. xviii. 2.  
 Note.

— *oil*—Compare Ps. xxiii. 5. Note.

11 *looketh upon the fall of*—Heb.  
*looketh with satisfaction upon.*

— *hear the condemnation of*—Heb.  
*hear of* (with satisfaction).

13 *Planted*—Compare Ps. Lii. 8.

13 *they*—i. e. the righteous.

15 *Thus do they proclaim*—Heb.  
*in order to proclaim.*

## XCIII.

1 *is firmly fixed*—by the power of  
 its Almighty King. Compare Ps.  
 xcvi. 10.



5 Thy testimonies are very sure!  
 Holiness graceth Thy house,  
 O JEHOVAH! for ever!

## PSALM XCIV.

1 O God of vengeance, O JEHOVAH!—  
 O God of vengeance, shine forth!  
 2 Arise, O Judge of the earth!  
 Render a recompense unto the proud.  
 3 How long, O JEHOVAH! shall the wicked—  
 How long shall the wicked exult?  
 4 How long shall they pour forth harsh words?  
 How long shall all the workers of iniquity loudly boast?  
 5 They grind Thy people, O JEHOVAH!  
 And afflict Thine inheritance.  
 6 They slay the widow and the stranger,  
 And put the fatherless to death.  
 7 And they say: "JEHOVAH doth not see,  
 "Nor doth the God of Jacob observe it!"  
 8 Consider, ye brutish among the people!  
 O fools! when will ye be wise?  
 9 He, who hath planted the ear—doth He not hear?  
 He, who hath formed the eye—doth He not see?  
 10 He, who chastiseth the heathen—shall He not rebuke?  
 He, who hath taught man knowledge—doth He not know?  
 11 JEHOVAH knoweth the thoughts of man,  
 That they are vain!

1 is mightier—Compare Ps. civ.

9.

5 testimonies—i. e. revealed will.  
 Holiness &c.—i. e. The sanctity of  
 Thy presence adorneth Thy house.

for ever—Heb. for length of  
 days.

## XCIV.

1 vengeance—"to me belongeth  
 vengeance and recompense." Deut.  
 xxxii. 35.

2 Arise—Heb. Be Thou lifted up.

8 brutish—i. e. irrational and un-  
 worthy of the name of human beings.

- 12 Happy the man, whom Thou instructest, O JEHOVAH !  
And teachest out of Thy law ;
- 13 That Thou mayest give him rest, and save him from the evil days,  
Until the pit be digged for the wicked !
- 14 For JEHOVAH will not cast away His people,  
Nor forsake His inheritance.
- 15 Truly, judgment shall return unto righteousness,  
And all the upright in heart shall follow after Him.
- 16 Who will rise up for me,  
Against the wicked ?  
Who will stand up for me,  
Against the workers of iniquity ?
- 17 Were not JEHOVAH my help,  
I should quickly lie down in silence !
- 18 When I think : My foot is slipping !  
Thy loving-kindness, O JEHOVAH ! upholdeth me.
- 19 When a multitude of anxious thoughts are within me,  
Thy consolations cheer my soul.
- 20 Shall the judgment-seat of wickedness have part with Thee ?  
Shall he, who frameth mischief, against law ?
- 21 They band together against the life of the righteous,  
And condemn the innocent blood.
- 22 But JEHOVAH is a tower of defence to me,  
And my God is the rock of my refuge.

12 *Thy law*—i. e. the revelation of Thy will.

13 *give him rest and save him from*—Heb. *give him rest from*. See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

— *be digged*—by Jehovah, while the righteous man witnesses in security the punishment of the wicked. Compare Ps. xci. 8. Note.

15 *unto righteousness*—i. e. The just judgment of God will, at some future time, be manifested against

wickedness, and the cause of the righteous will triumph.

15 *follow after Him*—both as ready witnesses of God's judgments, and grateful adorers of the just dealings of His providence.

17 *lie down*—Heb. *dwell*. i. e. in the silent grave. See Ps. cxv. 17.

20 *have part &c.*—i. e. meet with any favour or sanction from Thee.

— *against law*—Heb. *upon a decree*. i. e. by perverting justice to the furtherance of his own wicked designs.

- 23 HE will bring back upon them their wickedness;  
 Yea, for their iniquities, He will cut them off—  
 JEHOVAH, our God, will cut them off!

## PSALM XCV.

- 1 O COME, let us sing unto JEHOVAH,  
 Let us raise a joyful voice unto the Rock of our salvation!  
 2 Let us come before His presence, with thanksgiving,  
 Let us sing unto Him joyfully, with psalms!

- 3 For JEHOVAH is a great God,  
 And a great King above all gods!  
 4 In His hand, are the deep places of the earth,  
 And His are the heights of the mountains!  
 5 The sea is His—He made it!  
 And His hands formed the dry land!  
 6 Enter ye, let us bow down, yea, let us bend low—  
 Let us kneel before JEHOVAH, our Maker!  
 7 For He is our God,  
 And we are the people, whom He feedeth,  
 Yea, the flock, which His hand guideth.

“This day, O that ye would hear His voice!”

23 *their wickedness*—i. e. God will punish them, by bringing upon themselves the destruction, which they wickedly plotted against the righteous.

## XCV.

- 4 *hapt*—i. e. power.  
 6 *Enter ye*—the courts of the Lord's house. Compare Ps. xcvi. 8.  
 7 *whom He feedeth*—Heb. of His pasture.  
 — *which His hand guideth*—Heb. of His hand.  
 — *This day &c.*—The remainder of

the psalm contains the words of the Almighty.

7 *His voice*—i. e. the voice of Me, whom you have just declared to be your shepherd. Our Saviour illustrates, in a similar manner, the faith and obedience due from the Church to its Head. “I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine.” “And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.” John x. 14. 16.

- 8 "Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah,  
 "As in the day of Massah, in the desert!"
- 9 "Where your fathers tempted Me—  
 "Where they proved Me, though they had seen My works!"
- 10 "Forty years long, was I grieved with that generation!  
 "I said: They are a people, erring in heart,  
 "And they care not for My ways!"
- 11 "Wherefore I swear in My wrath:  
 "They shall not enter into My rest!"

## PSALM XCVI.

- 1 SING unto JEHOVAH a new song,  
 Sing unto JEHOVAH, all the earth!
- 2 Sing unto JEHOVAH, bless His Name,  
 Publish His salvation from day to day!
- 3 Declare His glory among the heathen—  
 His wonders, among all nations!
- 4 For great is JEHOVAH, and highly to be praised;  
 HE is to be revered above all gods!

8 *Meribah*—*Massah*. "And he called the name of the place *Massah*, and *Meribah*, because of the chiding of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, Is the LORD among us, or not?" Exod. xvii. 7.

9 *had seen My works*—i. e. had witnessed the wonderful acts by which I had brought them forth from the land of Egypt. See ver. 11. Note.

10 *care not for*—i. e. disregard and utterly neglect.

11 *I swear*—"Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt, and in the wilderness, have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice; Surely

they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it." Numb. xiv. 22, 23. "For the children of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, till all the people that were men of war, which came out of Egypt, were consumed, because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD: unto whom the LORD swore that he would not shew them the land, which the LORD swore unto their fathers that he would give us, a land that floweth with milk and honey." Josh. v. 6.

11 *enter into My rest*—i. e. obtain quiet possession of the land of Canaan, which I promised to give unto their fathers.

- 5 For all the gods of the nations are vain idols,  
But JEHOVAH made the heavens!
- 6 Glory and majesty are before Him, *and His power, His glory*  
Power and splendour, in His sanctuary! *in His temple*
- 7 Ascribe unto JEHOVAH, ye families of the nations!—  
Ascribe unto JEHOVAH glory and power.
- 8 Ascribe unto JEHOVAH the glory, due unto His Name,  
Take up your offerings, and enter into His courts.
- 9 Bow down unto JEHOVAH, in holy ornaments;  
Tremble at His presence, all the earth!
- 10 Say among the nations:  
"JEHOVAH reigneth!  
"Yea, the world is firmly fixed, it cannot be moved!  
"He decideth the cause of the people, with rectitude!"
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth exult,  
Let the sea roar, and all, which it containeth;
- 12 Let the fields be joyful, and all, that is therein,  
Then let all the trees of the forest sing,  
At the presence of JEHOVAH!
- 13 For He cometh—  
For He cometh to judge the earth!
- He will judge the world, with righteousness;  
And the nations, according to His faithfulness!

## PSALM XCVII.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigneth!  
Let the earth exult,  
Let the many islands rejoice!
- 2 Clouds and thick darkness are round about Him,  
Righteousness and equity are the foundation of His throne!

## XCVI.

12 Then—The Psalmist represents the heavens, earth &c. as taking up in succession the strain of praise at the appearing of the Lord.

## XCVII.

2 Clouds &c.—Compare Ps. xviii. 11.  
— Righteousness &c.—Compare Ps. Lxxxix. 14. Note.

- 3 A fire goeth before Him,  
 And burneth up His enemies on every side!  
 4 His lightnings illumine the world,  
 The earth beholdeth them, and trembleth as in pangs!  
 5 The mountains melt, as wax, at the presence of JEHOVAH—  
 At the presence of the Lord of all the earth!  
 6 The heavens proclaim His righteousness,  
 And all nations behold His glory!  
 7 All those, who worship graven images, are confounded—  
 Those, who make their boast in vain idols!  
 All gods bow down before Him!  
  
 8 Sion heareth and rejoiceth,  
 And the daughters of Judah exult,  
 Because of Thy judgments, O JEHOVAH!  
 9 For 'Thou, O JEHOVAH! art most high above all the earth,  
 Thou art far exalted above all gods.  
  
 10 Abhor evil, O ye who love JEHOVAH!  
 He preserveth the lives of His pious worshippers; *JEHOVAH v*  
 From the hand of the wicked, doth He deliver them. *Ps. cxviii. 11.*  
 11 Light ariseth upon the righteous,  
 And joy upon the upright in heart. *S. 18*  
 12 Rejoice in JEHOVAH, ye righteous!  
 And praise His holy Name.

4 *beholdeth them*—Heb. *beholdeth*.  
 Compare Ps. cxiv. 3. Note 2.  
 — *them*—i. e. the lightnings which  
 indicate the presence of the Almighty.  
 — *trembleth &c.*—at His presence,  
 manifested by the lightnings. See  
 Ps. xxix.

6 *The heavens*—i. e. the inhabit-  
 ants of heaven.  
 8 *the daughters*—Compare Ps.  
 xlviii. 11.  
 11 *ariseth*—Compare Ps. cxii. 4.  
 12 *Name*—Compare Ps. xxx. 4.  
 Note 2.

## PSALM XCVIII.

- 1 SING unto JEHOVAH a new song,  
 For He hath done marvellous deeds!  
 His right hand, and His holy arm  
 Have wrought salvation for Him!
- 2 JEHOVAH hath made known His salvation!  
 HE hath displayed His righteousness,  
 In the sight of the nations!
- 3 HE hath called to mind His loving-kindness and His truth,  
 Toward the house of Israel!  
 All the ends of the earth  
 Have seen the salvation of our God!
- 4 Raise a joyful voice unto JEHOVAH, all the earth!  
 Break forth into songs and hymns.
- 5 Hymn ye unto JEHOVAH with the harp—  
 With the harp, and with the voice of psalmody.
- 6 With cornets and the sound of the trumpet,  
 Sing joyfully before the King JEHOVAH.
- 7 Let the sea roar, and all, which it containeth—  
 The world, and those, who dwell therein.
- 8 Let the floods clap their hands,  
 And let the mountains sing together,  
 At the presence of JEHOVAH.  
 For He cometh to judge the earth!

HE will judge the world, with righteousness;  
 And the nations, with rectitude!

675

## XCVIII.

- 1 *salvation*—Compare Isai. Lix. 16.  
 and I. xiii. 5.  
 4 *into songs and hymns*—Heb.

*and sing and hymn ye.*

\* *floods clap their hands...mountains sing.*—Compare Ps. I. xv. 12, 13.

## PSALM XCIX.

- 1 JEHOVAH reigneth!  
 Let the nations tremble!  
 HE sitteth enthroned upon the Cherubim!  
 Let the earth quake!
- 2 JEHOVAH, who dwelleth in Sion, is great,  
 Yea, He is high above all nations!
- 3 Let men praise Thy Name, *Magnify*  
 Which is great and to be had in reverence  
 Holy is He! *Ps. 151:3*
- 4 The mighty King loveth equity!  
 THOU dost establish *rectitude*,  
 THOU exercisest equity and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 Exalt ye JEHOVAH, our God,  
 And bow down at His footstool!  
 Holy is He! *Ps. 151:3*
- 6 Moses and Aaron, among His ministers,  
 And Samuel, among those, who call upon His Name—  
 These called upon JEHOVAH,  
 And He answered them!
- 7 Out of the pillar of clouds,  
 HE spake unto them!  
 They kept His testimonies,  
 Even the statutes, which He gave them.
- 8 O JEHOVAH, our God!  
 THOU didst answer them!  
 A forgiving God wert Thou unto them,  
 Though Thou didst punish them for their doings.

## XCIX.

4 *The mighty King*—Heb. *The might of the King.*

8 *them*—The divine communica-

tion was made to Moses, and through him, to the Israelites (Exod. xxxiii.)  
 8 *their doings*—i. e. the misdoings of the Israelites.



9 Exalt ye JEHOVAH, our God,  
And bow down at His holy mountain.

For holy is JEHOVAH, our God!

PSALM C. *To the Chief Musician.*

1 RAISE a joyful voice unto JEHOVAH, all the earth!

2 Serve ye JEHOVAH, with gladness;  
Enter into His presence, with a song.

3 Acknowledge that JEHOVAH is God!  
HE hath made us, and we are His—  
His people and the flock, which He feedeth!

4 Enter ye into His gates, with thanksgiving,  
And into His courts, with praise;  
Be thankful unto Him, and bless His Name!

5 For JEHOVAH is good;  
His loving-kindness is everlasting,  
And His truth endureth to all generations.

## C.

3 made us—not only as being the Creator of all mankind, but as having made us a people, and framed the whole of our national polity. “Do ye thus requite the LORD, O foolish people and unwise? is not he thy father that hath bought thee? hath he not made thee, and established thee?” Deut. xxxii. 6. See also Ps. cxlix. 2.

3 which He feedeth—Heb. of His pasture.

5 For Jehovah &c.—In this verse the Psalmist declares that men are bound to perform this service not only because of God's right of sovereignty over his creatures, but for His never-failing goodness and mercy, and His invariable faithfulness to His promises.

## PSALM CI.

- 1 I WILL sing of Thy loving-kindness and equity!  
 O JEHOVAH! unto Thee will I hymn! <sup>1350</sup>
- 2 I will walk circumspectly, in the path of the upright;  
 O that Thou wouldst come unto me!
- I will behave myself, in my house, with integrity of heart. <sup>280</sup>
- 3 I will not set before mine eyes any wicked thing; <sup>381</sup> *thing of David*  
 I hate the deeds of transgressors,  
 They shall not cleave unto me.
- 4 The froward in heart shall depart from me,  
 I will not know a wicked man.
- 5 The secret slanderer of his neighbour will I destroy;  
 The lofty in look and the proud in heart, I will not endure.
- 6 Mine eyes are upon the faithful in the land,  
 That they may dwell with me.  
 The man, who walketh in the path of the upright—  
 He shall serve me. <sup>34</sup> <sup>1350</sup>
- 7 He, who practiseth deceit,  
 Shall not dwell in my house;  
 He, who speaketh lies,  
 Shall not be established in my sight.

## CI.

In this Psalm, David pours forth his prayers and vows, touching the future daily course of his religious duties, his care of his household and his regard for the due administration of the laws.

1 *I will sing &c.*—It appears to have been David's daily custom to celebrate in Psalms the moral attributes of God, as the most effectual means of strengthening his resolutions to proceed in the path of rectitude, and imitate the divine perfections. Compare Ps. xvii. 15. Note 5. and Ps. xxvi. the character of which is very similar to this Psalm. See also Ps. LXXV. 2.

1 *Thy loving-kindness &c.*—Heb. *loving-kindness &c.*

2 *O that Thou wouldst come*—Heb. *when wilt Thou come?*

—*come unto me*—to bless me. “In all places where I record my name, I will come unto thee and I will bless thee.” Exod. xx. 24. The Psalmist especially asks the aid of the Holy Spirit. Compare Ps. Li. 11.

3 *I will not set before mine eyes &c.*—i. e. I do not make it an object of my regard.

—*they*—i. e. such deeds.

6 *serve me*—i. e. be employed by me in offices of trust and honour.

7 *shall not be established*—i. e. shall not be suffered to remain.

- 8 I will destroy, every morning,  
All the wicked in the land;  
That I may cut off, from the city of JEHOVAH,  
All the workers of iniquity.

## PSALM CII.

- 1 O JEHOVAH! hear my prayer,  
And let my cry come unto Thee!  
2 Hide not Thy face from me;  
In my day of calamity, incline Thine ear unto me,  
In the day when I call, quickly answer me!  
3 For my days are consumed, and vanish as smoke,  
And my bones are dried up, as fire-wood.  
4 My heart is stricken, and withered, as grass;  
Truly, I forget to eat my bread.  
Because of my groaning,  
5 My bones cleave to my skin.  
6 I am like the pelican of the wilderness;  
I am become, as the owl of the desert.  
7 I am sleepless, yea, I am become,  
As the lonely bird upon the roof of the house.  
8 All the day long, do mine enemies upbraid me;  
Those, who rave against me, curse by my name.

8 I will destroy &c.—i. e. I will pass sentence of punishment upon the wicked, as their judge.

—every morning—The morning was that part of the day, in which justice was administered. "O house of David, Thus saith the LORD; Execute judgment in the morning, and deliver him that is spoiled out of the hand of the oppressor." Jer. xxi. 12.

## CII.

3 consumed—Compare Ps. xxvii. 20.

4 stricken—i. e. as it were by the rays of the sun.

5 skin—Heb. *flesh*.

7 the lonely bird—i. e. the owl.

8 curse by my name—Heb. *swear by me*—i. e. Into their forms of imprecating curses either upon others or upon themselves, they introduce

- 9 Truly, I eat ashes, as my bread,  
And mix my drink with tears,  
10 By reason of Thine indignation, and Thine anger;  
For Thou hast taken me up, and cast me away!  
11 My days are as a lengthened shadow,  
And I am dried up, as grass.  
12 But Thou, O JEHOVAH! sittest enthroned for ever,  
And Thy Name endureth to all generations.  
13 Mayest Thou arise!  
Mayest Thou be merciful unto Sion!  
For it is time to be gracious unto her—  
For the appointed time is come!  
14 Of a truth, Thy servants feel affection for her ruins,  
And compassion for her dust.  
15 The gentiles shall reverence the Name of JEHOVAH,  
And all the kings of the earth, Thy glory,  
16 When JEHOVAH shall have builded Sion—  
When He shall have appeared in His glory—  
17 When He shall have turned unto the prayer of the forlorn,  
And not contemned their supplication.  
18 This shall be written for the next generation,  
And a people, yet to be born, shall praise JEHOVAH:

me as the most striking example of extreme wretchedness. "And yeshall leave your *name* for a *curse* unto my chosen." Isai. Lxv. 15. "And of them shall be taken up a *curse* by all the captivity of Judah which are in Babylon, saying, The LORD make thee like Zedekiah and like Ahab, whom the king of Babylon roasted in the fire." Jer. xxix. 22.

9 Truly &c.—Heavily afflicted mourners were accustomed to prostrate themselves amongst the ashes. Thus Isai. vi. 26. "gird thee with sackcloth and wallow thyself in *ashes*, make thee mourning as for an only son." Again, Lam. iii. 16. "he hath

also broken my teeth with gravel-stones, he hath covered me with *ashes*."

9 tears—Compare Ps. xlii. 3. and Ps. Lxxx. 5.

11 lengthened shadow—i. e. a shadow which is becoming every instant more faint, and is upon the point of vanishing entirely away. See Ps. xc. 8. and Ps. cix. 23.

14 ruins—Heb. *stones*.

16 When He shall have appeared &c.—i. e. When the symbol of the divine presence shall again be seen in the temple.

18 This—i. e. the gracious intercession now prayed for.

- 19 " Truly, He hath looked down from His sanctuary on high!<sup>18</sup>  
 " From heaven hath JEHOVAH looked upon the earth!  
 20 " And hearkened unto the groans of the prisoners,  
 " And set at liberty those, appointed to die!"

- 21 They shall publish, in Sion, the Name of JEHOVAH,  
 And His praise, in Jerusalem!  
 22 When the nations are gathered together,  
 Even the kingdoms, to serve JEHOVAH.

- 23 He weakeneth my strength in the way,<sup>25</sup>  
 He cutteth short my days.  
 24 I say: O my God!  
 Take me not away in the midst of my days!  
 Thy years endure throughout all generations!

- 25 Of old, Thou hast laid the foundations of the earth,  
 And the heavens are the work of Thy hands.  
 26 They shall perish, but Thou endurest!  
 Yea, they shall grow old, as a garment!  
 Thou shalt change them, as a vesture,  
 And they shall be changed!  
 27 But Thou art the same,  
 And Thy years have no end!

- 28 May the sons of Thy servants dwell securely,  
 And may their seed be established, before Thee!

21 *They*—i. e. the people yet unborn. See ver. 18.

— *They shall publish*—Heb. *for the publishing of*.

23 *in the way*—i. e. ere I have proceeded far onward in my journey

through life.

28 *dwell securely*—Heb. *dwell*. i. e. in the land promised of old to their fathers.

— *before Thee*—i. e. under Thine especial care and protection.

## PSALM CIII.

- 1 BLESS JEHOVAH, O my soul!  
And all, that is within me, bless His holy Name!
- 2 Bless JEHOVAH, O my soul!  
And forget not all His benefits!
- 3 HE forgiveth all thine iniquities! 91a  
HE healeth all thine infirmities!
- 4 HE redeemeth thy life from the grave!  
HE crowneth thee with loving-kindness and mercies!
- 5 HE satisfieth thy mouth with good things,  
So that thy youth is renewed, with the strength of the eagle.
- 6 JEHOVAH executeth justice  
And equity, for all who are oppressed.
- 7 HE made known His ways unto Moses— 75'  
His doings unto the children of Israel:
- 8 "Merciful and gracious is JEHOVAH,  
"Slow to anger, and plenteous in loving-kindness!"
- 9 HE doth not always chide,  
Nor doth He retain His anger for ever.
- 10 HE hath not dealt with us, according to our sins,  
Nor recompensed us, according to our wickedness. 91c
- 11 Truly, high as are the heavens above the earth,  
So great is His mercy toward those, who reverence Him;

## CIII.

2 *all His benefits*—i. e. His many benefits.

3 *He forgiveth*—Heb. *The forgiver*, and similarly in the four lines next following.

5 *with the strength of the eagle*—Heb. *as the eagle*. "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and

not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isai. xl. 31.

8 "And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, the LORD God, *merciful and gracious, long-suffering, and abundant in goodness and truth*." Exod. xxxiv. 6.

9 *Nor doth He &c.*—"He retaineth not His anger for ever, because He delighteth in mercy." Micah vii. 18.

10 *us*—i. e. the people of Israel.

- 12 Far as is the east from the west,  
 So far hath He removed our transgressions from us!
- 13 As a father is tender-hearted unto his children,  
 So is JEHOVAH merciful unto those, who reverence Him!
- 14 For He knoweth whereof we are formed,  
 HE remembereth that we are dust!
- 15 As for man, his days are as grass!  
 As a flower of the field, so he flourisheth!
- 16 The wind passeth over it, and it is no more;  
 Yea, the place thereof no longer knoweth it!
- 17 But, from everlasting to everlasting,  
 Is JEHOVAH's mercy upon those, who reverence Him,  
 And His goodness, to their children's children—
- 18 To those, who keep His covenant,  
 Yea, to those, who are mindful to perform His precepts.
- 19 JEHOVAH hath established His throne in the heavens,  
 And His kingdom ruleth over all!
- 20 Bless JEHOVAH, ye His angels!  
 Ye mighty ones! who execute His word,  
 Harkening unto the voice of His command!
- 21 Bless JEHOVAH, all ye His hosts!  
 Ye His ministers! who do His pleasure.
- 22 Bless JEHOVAH, all ye His works!  
 In all places of His dominion!
- Bless JEHOVAH, O my soul!

12 *our transgressions*—i. e. the punishment due to our offences.

14 *whereof we are formed*—Heb. *our formation*.

15 *so*—i. e. he flourishes, comparatively speaking, for as short a time.

18 *are mindful &c.*—Heb. *remember His precepts so as to perform them*.

## PSALM CIV.

1 BLESS JEHOVAH, O my soul!

O JEHOVAH, my God! Thou art very great!

Thou art clothed with splendour and majesty! *honour*  
*majesty, dignity*

2 HE arrayeth Himself in light, as a garment!

HE spreadeth out the heavens, as a tent!

3 HE fixeth the beams of His chambers in the waters!

HE maketh the clouds His chariot!

HE walketh upon the wings of the wind!

4 HE maketh the winds, His messengers—

The flaming lightnings, His ministers!

5 HE hath made firm the earth upon its foundations;

It shall not be moved, for ever!

6 With the deep, as with a garment, Thou didst cover it;

Above the mountains stood the waters!

7 At Thy rebuke they fled!

At the voice of Thy thunder they hurried away!

8 They rise, as mountains, they descend, as valleys,

In the place, which Thou hast prepared for them.

## CIV.

2 *a tent*—i. e. the awning of a tent.  
—“that stretcheth out the heavens  
as a curtain, and spreadeth them out  
as a tent to dwell in.” Isai. xl. 22.

3 *fixeth the beams of His chambers*  
—i. e. maketh His dwelling-place.

—*in the waters*—Compare Ps. xxix.  
3. Note 3. See also Ps. xviii. 11. and  
Note.

4 *lightnings*—Heb. *fire*.  
—*His ministers*—“Canst thou send  
lightnings that they may go and say  
unto thee, *Here we are?*” Job xxxviii.

35. Compare Ps. cxlviii. 8.

6 *cover it*—“And the earth was

without form, and void; and dark-  
ness was upon the face of the deep;  
and the Spirit of God moved upon  
the face of the waters.” Gen. i. 2.

7 *they hurried away*—“And God  
said, Let the waters under the heaven  
be gathered together unto one place,  
and let the dry land appear; and it  
was so.” Gen. i. 9.

8 *They rise &c.*—Heb. *They rise  
mountains, they descend valleys*.  
Compare Ps. cvii. 26.

—*In the place*—“will ye not trem-  
ble at my presence, which have placed  
the sand for the bound of the sea, by  
a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass



- 9 THOU hast set them a boundary;  
They pass not over it!  
They return not to cover the earth!
- 10 HE sendeth forth springs along the valleys;  
They run among the mountains.
- 11 They give drink to all the beasts of the field;  
The asses of the desert quench their thirst!
- 12 By them do the birds of heaven dwell;  
From among the leaves of the trees, they utter their song.
- 13 HE watereth the mountains, from His chambers!  
The earth is saturated, from the fruit of Thy works!
- 14 HE causeth grass to spring up for the cattle,  
And herbs for the service of man.  
HE bringeth forth bread out of the earth,  
15 And wine, which gladdeneth man's heart.  
HE maketh his face to shine with oil,  
And with bread doth He support the heart of man.

it, and though *the waves thereof toss themselves*, yet can they not prevail, though *they roar*, yet can they not pass over it." Jer. v. 22. Compare Job xxxviii. 11.

9 *a boundary*—Consult Job xxxviii. 8, 9, 10, 11.

11 *The asses of the desert*—These wild animals, from living in the desert, might be thought especially liable to suffer from want of water.

12 *By them*—i. e. On the banks of the streams.

— *birds of heaven*—i. e. the "fowl that fly above the earth, in the open firmament of heaven." Gen. i. 20.

— *of the trees*—In hot climates, trees are found to be most numerous and luxuriant near the margins of rivers.

13 *the mountains*—These are particularly mentioned, as receiving a

larger supply of rain than the plains of the earth, and as being the sources of streams and rivers.

15 *The earth is saturated &c.*—i. e. The earth is saturated by the supplies, which it receives from the great reservoirs of waters, constructed by the hand of the Almighty, above the heavens. Compare Ps. lxxv. vv. 9—11.

14 *herbs*—esculent plants—"thou shalt eat the herb of the field." Gen. iii. 18.

— *He bringeth forth*—Heb. *so as to bring forth*.

— *bread*—i. e. bread-corn. Compare Isai. xxviii. 28.

15 *oil*—extracted from the olive was very abundant in the mountainous districts of Palestine, and was used, not only as food, but for a variety of religious and domestic purposes. "Oil out of the flinty rock" is mentioned

- 16 The trees of JEHOVAH are supplied to the full,  
Even the cedars of Lebanon, which He hath planted !
- 17 Wherein the birds build their nests.  
As for the stork, the fir-trees are her house ;
- 18 The lofty mountains are for the wild goats,  
And the rocks, a refuge for the jerboa.
- 19 HE hath made the moon, for the appointed festivals—  
The sun also, which knoweth the time of its setting !
- 20 THOU causest darkness, and it is night !  
Then do all the wild beasts of the forest prowl !
- 21 The lions roar after their prey,  
And ask from God their food !
- 22 The sun ariseth ! They betake themselves away,  
And lie down in their dens.
- 23 Man goeth forth to his work—  
Even to his field labours, until the evening.
- 24 How manifold are Thy works, O JEHOVAH !  
In wisdom hast Thou made them all ;  
The earth is filled with Thy riches !

by Moses (Deut. xxxii. 13, 14.) with  
"the fat of the kidneys of wheat,"  
and "the pure blood of the grape."

16 *The trees of Jehovah &c.*—This  
is an allusion to the size and great age  
of these trees, which had received no  
culture from man. They were amply  
supplied with water, by the snows  
and rains which fell in great abundance  
upon the mountains of Lebanon.  
"Will a man leave the *snow of Lebanon*  
which cometh from the rock of  
the field?" Jer. xviii. 14.

17 *the stork*—This bird is here  
selected and represented as having  
a *house* in the fir-trees, probably from  
her well known attachment to her  
young, and her peculiar care of them.

19 *the moon*—"He made the *moon*  
also to serve in her season for a de-

claration of times, and a sign of the  
world. From the *moon* is the *sign of*  
*feasts*, a light that decreaseth in her  
perfection." Ecclesiasticus xliii. 6, 7.

19 *The sun also*—Heb. *The sun*—  
"let them (the sun and the moon) be  
for signs &c." Gen. i. 14.

— *knoweth the time of its setting*—  
i. e. obeys uniformly the laws im-  
posed upon it, by the Creator of all  
things, for the good of His creatures.  
Compare Ps. xix. 4—6.

21 *roar*—Naturalists inform us that  
the lion first affrights animals, by his  
roaring, from their coverts, and then  
pursues them.

— *ask*—by their cry. Compare Ps.  
cxlvii. 9.

24 *Thy riches*—i. e. the things cre-  
ated by Thee.

- 25 The sea also, great and wide!  
 Therein move creatures innumerable—  
 Living creatures, small and great!
- 26 There swimmeth the nautilus,  
 And the whale, which Thou hast formed to sport therein.
- 27 These wait all upon Thee,  
 That Thou mayest give them their food, in due season.
- 28 Thou givest it to them, they gather it!  
 Thou openest Thy hand, they are filled with good!
- 29 Thou hidest Thy face, they are confounded!  
 Thou takest away their breath, they expire,  
 And return unto their dust!
- 30 Thou sendest forth Thy breath, they are created,  
 And Thou dost renew the face of the earth!
- 31 The glory of JEHOVAH endureth for ever;  
 JEHOVAH rejoiceth in His works!
- 32 HE looketh upon the earth, and it trembleth!  
 HE toucheth the mountains, and they smoke!
- 33 I will sing unto JEHOVAH, as long as I live;  
 I will hymn unto my God, while I have my being!

26 *swimmeth*—Heb. *goeth*.

— *the nautilus*—This little creature floats, at pleasure, upon the surface of the sea. Its shell resembles the hull of a ship, whence it has its name.

— *the whale*—Heb. *Leviathan*. This word sometimes denotes the crocodile. Here it is used to designate some one of the largest inhabitants of the ocean.

29 *their dust*—the dust out of which they were formed.

30 *Thou sendest &c.*—i. e. Thou speakest the word. "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the *breath* of the Almighty hath given me life." Job xxxiii. 4. Compare Ps. xxxiii. 6.

30 *Thy breath*—i. e. the breath of life, which "the Lord God breathed into the nostrils" of all living creatures.

— *they &c.*—i. e. others, in succession, are brought into existence.

31 *rejoiceth*—"And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was *very good*." Gen. i. 31.

32 It is probable that earthquakes and volcanoes are here especially referred to. Such awful visitations as the earthquake which in 1837 destroyed so many villages in Syria, were probably from time to time experienced by her ancient inhabitants. Compare Ps. xli. 2. Note.

34 May my meditation be grateful unto Him!

I will rejoice in JEHOVAH!

35 Sinners shall be consumed out of the earth,<sup>135</sup>

And the wicked shall be no more!

Bless JEHOVAH, O my soul!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

### PSALM CV.

1 GIVE praise unto JEHOVAH, call upon His Name;

Make known among the nations His doings.

2 Sing unto Him, hymn ye unto Him;

Tell of all His wondrous works.

3 Make your boast in His holy Name;

Let the heart of those, who seek JEHOVAH, rejoice!

4 Seek ye JEHOVAH and His power;

Seek His face continually.

5 Call to mind His wonders, which He hath wrought—

His miracles, and the judgments of His mouth,

6 Ye seed of Abraham, His servant!

Ye sons of Jacob, His chosen ones!

7 HE, JEHOVAH, is our God!

His judgments are in all the earth!

8 HE for ever remembereth His covenant—

The word which He enjoined to a thousand generations—

9 The covenant, which He made with Abraham,

And His oath unto Isaac,

34 Compare Ps. xix. 14. Ps. cxli. 2.

35 *Praise ye Jehovah*—Heb. *Hallelu-jah*.

CV.

4 Be earnest and constant in attending upon the public worship of

Jehovah, in the place where the ark, the symbol of His power and presence, is deposited.

8 *The word which He enjoined*—i. e. His commandments as contained in the Law of Moses.

- 10 Which also He confirmed unto Jacob for a statute—  
Unto Israel for an everlasting covenant;  
11 Saying: "Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan,  
"The portion of your inheritance!" *Gen. xxi. 33*  
12 When they were few in number,  
Yea, few, and they strangers therein!  
13 When they went from nation to nation—  
From one kingdom to another people;  
14 HE suffered no man to oppress them,  
But rebuked kings for their sake:  
15 "Touch not Mine anointed ones!  
"Do My prophets no harm!"  
16 When He called a famine upon the land,  
And broke all the staff of bread;  
17 HE sent one before them,  
Joseph, who was sold for a bond-servant.  
18 His feet they hurt with fetters,  
HE was bound with iron; *Gen. xli. 12*  
19 Until the time, when his saying came to pass,  
And the word of JEHOVAH proved him.

11 *unto thee*—i. e. to thee, Jacob, and to thy descendants.

— *portion*—Compare Ps. xvi. 5. Notes 1, 2.

12 *they*—the family of Abraham.

— *few in number*—Heb. *men of number*.

— *strangers therein*—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob sojourned in the land of promise merely as strangers.

14 *rebuked*—"And the LORD plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues, because of Sarai, Abram's wife." Gen. xii. 17. "Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet.....and if thou (Abimelech king of Gerar) restore her not, know thou that thou shalt

*surely die*, thou, and all that are thine." Gen. xx. 7.

15 The terms "anointed" and "prophets" are here applied to the patriarchs. They are, therefore, to be taken in a wide sense, as comprehending persons set apart for high and holy purposes, and holding communication with the Almighty.

16 *He called*—as a master unto a servant, commanding obedience.

— *And broke &c.*—i. e. caused the supply of corn to be deficient and inadequate to the support of life.

18 *they*—i. e. the Egyptians.

19 *his saying*—i. e. Joseph's predictions. See Gen. xli.

- 20 Then the king sent, and loosed him,  
Even the ruler of the nation, and set him free.
- 21 He made him lord over his house,  
Yea, ruler over all his possessions;
- 22 That he might bind his princes at pleasure, *Gen. 20. 18*  
And teach his elders wisdom.
- 23 When Israel came into Egypt,  
And Jacob was a sojourner in the land of Ham;
- 24 Then He multiplied His people greatly,  
And made them stronger than their enemies.
- 25 HE turned their hearts, so that they hated His people,  
And dealt craftily with His servants.
- 26 HE sent Moses, His servant,  
And Aaron, whom He had chosen,
- 27 They wrought among them His miracles,  
And wonders in the land of Ham.
- 28 HE sent darkness, yea, He made it dark!  
And they rebelled not against His commands.
- 29 HE turned their waters into blood,  
And caused their fish to die.
- 30 Their land swarmed with frogs,  
Even in the chambers of their kings.
- 31 HE spake, and there came flies,  
And lice, in all their borders. *270*
- 32 For showers of rain, He gave them hail,  
And flaming lightnings, in their land.

20 *the king sent*—“Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they brought him hastily out of the dungeon: and he shaved himself, and changed his raiment, and came in unto Pharaoh.” Gen. xli. 14.

24 *multiplied*—Heb. *made fruitful*.

25 *He turned*—Since all events happen by the direction or the permission of Providence, the Hebrew

writers are accustomed to attribute them directly to divine agency.

27 *them*—i. e. the Egyptians.

28 *they*—i. e. Moses and Aaron. Compare Ps. xcix. 6, 7.

30 *chambers of their kings*—i. e. the palaces in which the kings of Egypt were wont to reside.

32 *lightnings*—Heb. *fire*. “fire mingled with the hail.” Exod. ix. 24.

- 33 HE smote their vines and their fig-trees;  
 Yea, He brake in pieces the trees, in their borders.
- 34 HE spake, and the locust came,  
 And caterpillars innumerable;
- 35 And they devoured every green herb in their land;  
 Yea, they devoured the fruit of their ground!
- 36 HE smote also every first-born in their land,  
 The prime of all their strength.
- 37 But them He brought out with silver and gold;  
 There was not one feeble person among His tribes!
- 38 Egypt rejoiced at their departure,  
 For a dread of them had fallen upon her people.
- 39 HE spread out a cloud for a covering,  
 And fire, to give light by night.
- 40 They asked, and He brought quails;  
 HE also filled them with bread from the heavens.
- 41 HE opened the rock, and waters gushed forth;  
 They ran through the desert, as a river.
- 42 Truly, He was mindful of His holy promise,  
 And of Abraham, His servant.
- 43 Therefore He brought out His people with joy—  
 His chosen ones, with songs of triumph.
- 44 HE gave unto them the lands of the heathen;  
 And they had the labours of the nations for an heritage;
- 45 To the intent that they might keep His statutes,  
 And observe His laws.

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

34 innumerable — Heb. *without number*.

37 *them*—i. e. His servants. See ver. 25.

— *silver and gold*—Consult Exod. xii.

38 *upon her people*—Heb. *upon them*, i. e. the Egyptians.

40 *bread from the heavens*—i. e. the manna. Compare Ps. Lxxviii. 24.

44 *labours*—i. e. fruits of their labour.

## PSALM CVI.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

Give praise unto JEHOVAH, for He is good—

For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!

2 Who shall express the mighty acts of JEHOVAH?

Who shall declare all His praise?

3 Happy they, who observe equity—

Who practise righteousness at all times!

4 Call me to mind, O JEHOVAH!

With the favour, which Thou bearest unto Thy people;

Visit me with Thy salvation!

5 That I may see the prosperity of Thy chosen ones—

That I may rejoice in the gladness of Thy people—

That I may glory with Thine inheritance!

6 We have sinned, as did our fathers;

We have acted perversely, we have done wickedly. 906

7 Our fathers, in Egypt,

Did not duly consider Thy wonders;

They kept not in mind Thine abundant mercies,

But were rebellious at the sea, even at the Red sea.

8 Yet He saved them, for His Name's sake,

That He might make His greatness to be known.

9 HE rebuked the Red sea, and it became dry!

HE led them through the deep, as through the desert.

10 HE saved them from the hand of those, who hated them,

Yea, He redeemed them from the hand of the enemy.

11 The waters overwhelmed their adversaries;

Not one of them was left!

## CVI.

7 rebellious at the sea—This refers to the murmuring of the Israelites

before the passage of the Red sea (Exod. xiv.).

9 as through the desert—i. e. as if upon dry ground.



- 12 Then they believed in His promises;  
They sang His praise.
- 13 Soon they forgot His doings,  
They waited not for His counsel;  
14 But craved eagerly for meat in the wilderness,  
And tempted God in the desert.  
15 Then He granted unto them their request,  
But sent a wasting disease against them.
- 16 They envied Moses, in the camp,  
And Aaron, the holy priest of JEHOVAH.  
17 The earth opened, and swallowed up Dathan,  
And overwhelmed the company of Abiram.  
18 A fire was kindled against their company;  
The flame burned up the wicked!
- 19 They made a calf, in Horeb,  
And bowed down to a molten image.  
20 Yea, they bartered away their glory,  
For the likeness of an ox, which eateth grass.  
21 They forgot God, their Saviour,  
Who had wrought mighty works in Egypt—  
22 Wondrous deeds in the land of Ham—  
Fearful things at the Red sea!  
23 Then He said that He would destroy them—  
Unless Moses, His chosen,  
Had stood before Him in the breach,  
To turn away His wrath, from destroying them.

13 for *His counsel*—i. e. for the result of His gracious interferences in their behalf.

14 *craved eagerly for meat*—Heb. *desired a desire*.

— *tempted*—Compare Ps. Lxxviii. 18. Note 1.

16 *holy priest*—Heb. *the consecrated*.

18 *the wicked*—i. e. those wicked men.

20 *their glory*—i. e. They deserted the ark, the symbol of the divine presence among them.

23 *unless &c.*—(which He certainly would have done) unless &c.

— *breach*—This term is used figuratively. It means strictly a breach made by the enemy in the wall of a city.

- 24 They despised the desirable land,  
They believed not His promise!
- 25 But murmured in their tents,  
And hearkened not unto the voice of JEHOVAH.
- 26 Then, He lifted up His hand, and sware unto them,  
That He would cause them to die in the desert—
- 27 That He would cast out their offspring among the heathen,  
And disperse them through the lands.
- 28 They were joined together, in honour of Baal-peor,  
And ate sacrifices offered to the dead.
- 29 Thus did they provoke Him to anger by their doings,  
And the plague broke in upon them.
- 30 Then stood up Phinehas, and executed judgment,  
And the plague was stayed;
- 31 And it hath been accounted unto him as righteousness,  
Through all generations, for ever.
- 32 They angered Him at the waters of Meribah,  
And evil befel Moses upon their account.
- 33 For they embittered his spirit,  
So that he spake rashly with his lips.
- 34 They destroyed not the nations, *for of them*  
As JEHOVAH had commanded them;

25 *Then &c.*—Heb. *Then He lifted up His hand unto them.* Compare Ps. xciv. 11.

— *to die*—Heb. *to fall.* Compare Numbers xiv.

27 God here threatens that if the posterity of the Israelites imitate their evil example, they shall be carried away from the promised land into all the countries of the earth, and die in captivity.

28 For the impure rites of Baal-peor, see Numb. xxv.

— *the dead*—i. e. idols, so called

in contradistinction to the living God.

30 *judgment*—upon the offending parties. See Numb. xxv.

31 *accounted*—i. e. by God.

— *for ever*—Phinehas and his seed after him had, by God's appointment, "the covenant of an everlasting priesthood" (Numb. xxv. 13). This covenanted promise, however, is not to be understood as absolutely unlimited in duration. It was fulfilled by the continuance of the Levitical priesthood in the posterity of Phinehas, through many generations. See Ps. cx. 4. Note.

- 35 But mingled with the heathen,  
And learned their works.
- 36 Yea, they served their idols;  
Thus they became a snare unto them!
- 37 They sacrificed their sons,  
And their daughters, unto demons!
- 38 They shed innocent blood—  
The blood of their sons and of their daughters,  
Whom they sacrificed, unto the idols of Canaan;  
So that the land was polluted with blood!
- 39 Thus did they defile themselves with their works,  
And serve other gods, after their practices.
- 40 Then the anger of JEHOVAH burned against His people,  
And He abhorred His inheritance.
- 41 HE gave them into the hand of the heathen,  
And those, who hated them, had dominion over them.
- 42 Their enemies oppressed them,  
And they were bowed down under their hand. *b.c.*
- 43 Many times did He deliver them;  
But they provoked Him with their counsels,  
And were brought low for their iniquity.
- 44 Yet, He looked upon their trouble,  
When He heard their cry.
- 45 HE remembered His covenant with them,  
And relented, according to His plenteous mercy.
- 46 Yea, He caused them to be pitied,  
Of all, who held them captive.
- 47 Save us, O JEHOVAH, our God!  
And gather us from among the heathen;

36 *they*—i. e. the heathen.

39 *their works*—i. e. the works of the heathen.

— *serve other gods*—Heb. *went a whoring*.

— *their practices*—i. e. the prac-

tices of the heathen.

40 *His inheritance*—Compare Deut. ix. 29.

43 *their counsels*—i. e. the perverseness with which they followed their own evil imaginations.

That we may celebrate Thy holy Name—  
That we may glory in Thy praise!

- 48 Blessed be JEHOVAH, the God of Israel!  
From everlasting to everlasting!  
And let all the people say:  
AMEN! Praise ye JEHOVAH!

## PSALM CVII.

- 1 "GIVE praise unto JEHOVAH, for He is good—  
"For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!"  
2 Thus let the redeemed of JEHOVAH say—  
Those, whom He hath redeemed  
From the hand of their enemies,  
3 And gathered together from the lands—  
From the east, and from the west,  
From the north, and from the south!
- 4 They wandered in the wilderness, even in the desert; *see Ps. 107*  
They found no way to cities, wherein they might dwell.  
5 Hungry and thirsty,  
Their spirit within them fainted.  
6 Then they cried unto JEHOVAH, in their trouble,  
And He delivered them, out of their distress!  
7 HE led them, by a straight way, *Ps. 107, 35*  
So that they came unto cities, wherein they might dwell.
- 8 O let them praise JEHOVAH for His loving-kindness, *Ps. 107, 36*  
And His wonders toward the children of men!  
9 For He hath fed the hungry to the full,  
And the famished He hath filled with good.

48 This doxology closes the fourth book of the Psalms. Compare Ps. xli. 13. Note.

## CVII.

3 the south—Heb. the sea. i. e. the

Red sea. See Ps. lxxviii. 26. Note 2.

8 them—i. e. men.

9 the hungry—Heb. the craving appetite.

- 10 Those, who were dwelling in the dark shadow of death,  
Bound with galling chains,  
11 Because they had rebelled against the commands of God,  
And had contemned the counsel of the most High—  
12 Those, whose hearts He had bowed down by hardships—  
Who had stumbled, and there was no helper—  
13 They cried unto JEHOVAH, in their trouble,  
And He saved them, out of their distress.  
14 He brought them out of the dark shadow of death,  
And burst their bonds asunder.
- 15 O let them praise JEHOVAH for His loving-kindness,  
And His wonders toward the children of men!  
16 For He hath broken in pieces the gates of brass,  
And cleft asunder the bars of iron.
- 17 The wicked, by reason of their evil course,  
Yea, because of their iniquities, were afflicted—  
18 Their appetite abhorred all food,  
And they were near unto the gates of death—  
19 They cried unto JEHOVAH in their trouble,  
And He saved them out of their distress.  
20 He sent forth His command, and healed them,  
Yea, He rescued them from destruction.
- 21 O let them praise JEHOVAH for His loving-kindness,  
And His wonders toward the children of men!  
22 Yea, let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving,  
And declare His works in song!
- 23 Those, who go down to the sea in ships—  
Whose occupation is upon the great waters—

10 *in the dark &c.*—Heb. *in darkness even the shadow of death.* Compare Ps. xxiii. 4. Note 1.

—*galling chains*—Heb. *misery and iron.*

11 *dark shadow &c.*—Compare Ps. xxiii. 4. Note 1.

17 *The wicked.* Heb. *Fools.* See Ps. xiv. 1. Note.

20 *from destruction*—Heb. *from their pits.*

23 *go down*—Compare Ps. xxiv. 2. Note 2.

—*Whose occupation is*—Heb. *The doers of work.*

- 24 These men behold the works of JEHOVAH,  
And His wonders in the deep!
- 25 For He speaketh, and raiseth the stormy wind!  
It lifteth high the waves thereof!
- 26 They go up to the heavens, they go down into the depths!  
Their heart melteth away because of their distress;
- 27 They reel and stagger, as a drunken man,  
And all their skill faileth.
- 28 They cry unto JEHOVAH, in their trouble,  
And He bringeth them, out of their distress.
- 29 HE calmeth the stormy wind,  
And the waves of the sea are hushed.
- 30 Then they rejoice, because the waves are still;  
And He leadeth them to the haven, which they desired.
- 31 O let them praise JEHOVAH for His loving-kindness, *Waves*  
And His wonders toward the children of men!
- 32 Yea, let them extol Him, in the assembly of the people, *on the sea, as they sail*  
And praise Him, in the council of the elders! *land*
- 33 HE turneth rivers into a desert,  
Even springs of water into a parched land—
- 34 A fruitful land into barrenness,  
For the wickedness of those, who dwell therein.
- 35 HE turneth a desert into a pool of water,  
Even a thirsty land into springs of water.
- 36 HE causeth the hungry to dwell therein;  
Yea, they establish cities, as their dwelling places.
- 37 They sow fields, and plant vineyards,  
And they yield fruit of increase.

26 *They*—i. e. the waves.  
— *Their heart*—i. e. the heart of the mariners.

27 *faileth*—Heb. *is destroyed*.  
29 *He calmeth &c.*—Heb. *He causeth the stormy wind to stand into stillness*.

29 *the waves of the sea*—Heb. *their waves*.

30 *which they desired*—Heb. *of their desire*.

32 *council*—Heb. *seat*.

34 *barrenness*—Heb. *saltiness*.

- 38 HE blesseth them, so that they multiply greatly,  
And He suffereth not their cattle to decrease.
- 39 When they are diminished and brought low,  
From grievous oppression and affliction;
- 40 HE poureth contempt upon princes,  
And causeth them to wander in the pathless wilderness.
- 41 But the poor He raiseth from their misery, *needy*  
And increaseth their families, as a flock of sheep.
- 42 The upright shall see this, and rejoice,  
And all iniquity shall close her mouth!
- 43 Whoso is wise will observe these things;  
Yea, they will understand the loving-kindnesses of JEHOVAH!

## PSALM CVIII.

- 1 O God, my heart is prepared!  
I will sing and I will hymn.  
My soul also is prepared!
- 2 Awake, O lute and harp!  
I will awake with the early dawn.
- 3 I will praise Thee, O JEHOVAH! among the *nations*,  
And I will hymn Thee, among the people.
- 4 For great, above the heavens, is Thy loving-kindness,  
And Thy faithfulness, unto the clouds.

40 *princes*—who oppressed them, as did Pharaoh.

— *causeth them &c.*—i. e. inflicteth punishment upon oppressive princes.

41 *the poor*—i. e. His afflicted servants. See ver. 39.

— *increaseth their*—Heb. *appointeth* (unto them).

42 *see this*—Heb. *see* (the kindness thus shown by the Almighty to His own people).

43 *they*—i. e. all who follow the dictates of true wisdom.

## CVIII.

This Psalm, from the beginning to the fifth verse inclusive, corresponds, almost to the letter, with the latter part of the I.viith Psalm (vv. 7—11.), and thence to the end with the latter part of the Lxxxixth Psalm (vv. 6—12).

1 *My soul also is prepared*—Heb. *My glory* or *My mind* also.

4 *great &c.*—Compare Ps. ciii. 11.

- 5 Be Thou exalted above the heavens, O God!  
And Thy glory, above all the earth.  
6 That Thy beloved ones may be rescued,  
Save us with Thy right hand, and answer us!

- 7 God hath promised by His holiness!

Triumphantly shall I portion out Shechem,  
And measure the valley of Succoth.

- 8 Gilead is mine, Manasseh is mine,  
Ephraim also is the defence of my life, *the strength*  
Judah is my law-giver.

- 9 Moab shall hold the basin in which I wash,  
To Edom will I throw my shoes;  
Over Philistia will I raise the shout of triumph.

- 10 Who will lead me to the <sup>66</sup>fortified city?  
Who will guide me unto Edom?

- 11 Hast not Thou, O God! rejected us?  
Yea, Thou, O God! goest not forth with our armies!

- 12 Give unto us relief from our distress,  
For vain is the help of man.

- 13 Through God shall we do <sup>423</sup>valiantly,  
Yea, it is He, who shall tread down our enemies.

7 *promised by His holiness*—sworn by Himself that He will maintain the cause of David. Compare Ps. Lxxxix. 35.

— *Triumphantly shall I portion out*—Heb. *I will exult, I will portion out*.

— *portion out*—as a conquered land.  
— *measure*—for the purpose of distributing it, amongst my followers.

8 *defence of my life*—Heb. *strength*

*of my head*. See Ps. Lx. 7. Note.

9 *my shoes*—that he may carry them. To take off the shoes, and to wash the feet, were offices assigned to slaves. Compare Ps. Lx. 8. Note.

10 *Who will lead &c.* ?—i. e. How earnestly do I desire to engage in an enterprise, of the success of which I have been graciously assured!

12 *relief*—Heb. *help*.

— *help*—Heb. *salvation*.



## PSALM CIX.

- 1 O God of my praise, be not silent!  
 2 For men open a wicked and deceitful mouth against me.  
 They speak against me, with a tongue of falsehood!  
 3 Yea, they encompass me with words of hatred,  
 And fight against me, without a cause.  
 4 In return for my love, they are mine adversaries!  
 But I give myself unto prayer.  
 5 Yea, they repay me evil for good,  
 And hatred for my love.  
 6 Set Thou over him a wicked man,  
 And let an adversary stand at his right hand.  
 7 When he is judged, let him go forth condemned,  
 And let his supplication be accounted an offence.

## CIX.

It may be observed, with reference to the imprecations found particularly in this Psalm, and in Ps. Lxix. that the morality, which they breathe, does not ill accord either with the general character of the Mosaic dispensation, or with the state of religious knowledge, to which the Jewish nation had attained. The love of our enemies was a duty first distinctly and positively inculcated by the divine Author of the Christian faith. This pure and sublime doctrine did not form a part of the law delivered to the Jews, because of "the hardness of their hearts."

Let it not be urged that it would have been better, if the sacred volume had no where exhibited the "holy men," who were of old, thus betraying, even in their intercourse with God, a deep resentment of the unprovoked injuries which they were continually suffering from the wicked. These very passages of scripture con-

vey an useful and a very important lesson. For they teach Christians, in the most forcible manner, the value of those preeminent advantages which are enjoyed by them under the Gospel.

1 *of my praise*—i. e. the object of my praise.

6 *him*—i. e. my enemy.

— *a wicked man*—i. e. an inexorable man as his judge.

— *an adversary*—prepared to bring a formal accusation against him.

— *at his right hand*—"And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan (i. e. *an adversary*) standing at his right hand to resist him." Zech. iii. 1. Compare also ver. 31.

7 *condemned*—Heb. *wicked*, i. e. sentenced as guilty.

— *let his supplication &c.*—i. e. Let his prayer for mercy and pardon, addressed to this wicked judge, be by him considered as contumacy, and construed into an aggravation of his guilt.

- 8 Let his days be few ;  
 Let another take his office.
- 9 Let his children be fatherless,  
 And his wife, a widow.
- 10 Let his children also be vagabonds and beggars ;  
 Driven from their ruined dwellings, let them seek for bread.
- 11 Let the extortioner seize upon all, which he hath,  
 And let strangers plunder the fruit of his toil.
- 12 Let no one continue to show kindness to him,  
 And let none pity his fatherless children.
- 13 Let his posterity be cut off ;  
 In the next generation, let their name be blotted out.
- 14 Let the iniquity of his fathers be remembered by JEHOVAH,  
 And let not the sin of his mother be blotted out.
- 15 Let them be before JEHOVAH continually,  
 That He may cut off their name from the earth ;
- 16 Because he is not minded to show kindness,  
 But persecuteth the afflicted and poor man, *downward 158*  
 Even the broken-hearted, to put him to death. *as a do, humbled*  
*meadly*
- 17 Since he loveth cursing, let it come unto him ;  
 Since he delighteth not in blessing, let it be far from him.
- 18 Since he putteth on cursing, as his garment,  
 Let it enter into him, as water— *664*  
 Into his bones, as oil.
- 19 Let it be unto him as the garment, which covereth him,  
 And as the girdle, with which he is constantly girded. *664*

10 *be vagabonds and beggars—*  
*Heb. continually wander about and*  
*ask (of others the means of subsist-*  
*ence). Compare Ps. Lxix. 25.*

— *Driven &c.—Heb. Let them*  
*seek, out of their ruined dwellings.*

11 *the fruit of his toil—Heb. his*  
*labour.*

13 *be blotted out—See Ps. Lxix.*  
*28.*

15 *them—i. e. the iniquity and sin*  
*of his parents.*

— *their name—Heb. their memo-*  
*rial. Compare Ps. xxx. 4. Note 2.*

16 *persecuteth—Compare Ps. Lxix.*  
*26.*

18 *as water... as oil—i. e. Let it*  
*affect him not merely superficially,*  
*but let it penetrate and pervade his*  
*whole frame.*

20 May this be the reward of mine adversaries from JEHOVAH,  
Even of those, who speak evil against me!

21 But do Thou, O JEHOVAH-LORD!  
Take part with me, for Thy Name's sake;  
Deliver me, for Thy loving-kindness is great!

22 Truly, I am afflicted and poor,  
And my heart is wounded within me.

23 I am departing, as a lengthened shadow;  
I am shaken off, as a locust.

24 My knees totter through fasting,  
And my body faileth for want of fatness.

25 I am become a reproach unto them;  
They look at me, they shake their head.

26 Help me, O JEHOVAH, my God!  
Save me, according to Thy loving-kindness!

27 And let them know that this is Thy hand,  
And that Thou, JEHOVAH! hast done it.

28 Though they curse, yet do Thou bless!  
When they rise up, let them be brought to shame;  
But let Thy servant rejoice.

29 Let mine adversaries be clothed with disgrace,  
And covered with their shame, as with a mantle!

30 I will greatly celebrate JEHOVAH with my mouth;  
Yea, amidst the multitudes will I praise Him.

31 For He standeth at the right hand of the poor,  
And saveth him from those, who condemn him to death.

21 *great*—i. e. in administering comfort.

23 *as a lengthened shadow*—Heb. *as a shadow in its lengthening*. Compare Ps. cii. 11. Note.

—*shaken off*—Compare Ps. cxxxvi. 15. Note. and Exod. xiv. 27. (Margin).

25 *them*—i. e. my enemies.  
—*shake their head*—in derision and scorn. Compare Ps. xxii. 7.

27 *that this is Thy hand*—i. e. that mine aid cometh from Thee.

31 *from those &c.*—Heb. *from the judges of his life*.

## PSALM CX.

1 THE saying of JEHOVAH unto my Lord:

"Sit Thou at My right hand,  
"Until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool."

2 JEHOVAH will send, out of Sion, the rod of Thy might;  
Thou shalt rule amidst Thine enemies.

3 THY people shall freely offer themselves,  
At the gathering of Thine <sup>4</sup>armies, in holy attire;  
THY youths shall come forward for Thee,  
As the dew-drops from the womb of the morning.

4 JEHOVAH hath sworn, and He will not repent:  
"Thou art a Priest for ever,  
"According to the order of Melchisedek."

5 JEHOVAH is at Thy right hand!  
HE shall crush kings in the day of His wrath;  
6 HE shall execute judgment upon the heathen,  
Surrounded by the bodies of the slain.

## CX.

This Psalm is prophetic (Matt. xxii. 41—46. Mark xii. 35—37. Luke xx. 41—44. Acts ii. 34, 35. Heb. i. 13. v. 6. vii. 16. xii. 2.) of the triumphs to be achieved by the Messiah, and of the perpetual Priesthood vested in Him by Jehovah. The tone and character of the Psalm bear, in several particulars, a strong resemblance to those of the second Psalm. See Introductory Note Ps. ii.

1 *saying*—i. e. the solemn declaration.

—*Sit &c.*—This implies a participation of sovereign power.

2 *Jehovah &c.*—i. e. Jehovah will obtain the victory for you.

3 *freely offer themselves*—Heb. (shall be) *free gifts*. i. e. shall wil-

lingly come forward and engage in this warfare.

3 *Thy youths &c.*—Heb. *Thy youths for Thee*.

—*at the gathering of Thine armies*—Heb. *in the day of Thy forces*.

—*As*—i. e. numerous as. "...we will light upon him, as the dew falleth on the ground." 2 Sam. xvii. 12.

—*the dew-drops*—The dew is poetically considered as the offspring of the morning.

4 *Priest*—"he shall be a Priest upon his throne." Zech. vi. 13.

—*the order &c.*—This is distinguished from the order of Aaron's priesthood, by being perpetual.

5 *at Thy right hand*—i. e. at Thy side.

6 *surrounded by*—Heb. *full of*.

HE shall crush the heads  
Over far-extended lands.

7 HE shall drink of the running stream, in the way;  
Therefore shall He lift up His head.

## PSALM CXI.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

I will praise JEHOVAH with my whole heart;  
In the company of the upright, and in the public assembly.

2 Great are the works of JEHOVAH!—

Sought out of all, who take delight therein.

3 His doings are excellent and glorious;

And His goodness endureth for ever.

4 HE maketh His wondrous works to be remembered;

Gracious and merciful is JEHOVAH!

5 HE giveth food unto those, who reverence Him;

HE is ever mindful of His covenant.

6 *the heads*—i. e. the rulers.

7 *He*—i. e. the victorious King, the Messiah.

— *drink &c.*—be miraculously refreshed as Moses and the children of Israel were in the desert (Exod. xvii. 6).

— *Therefore &c.*—When thus refreshed, the Messiah will be victorious over His enemies.

## CXI.

This Psalm is alphabetical, each line, in the Hebrew, beginning with a different letter. See Ps. xxv. Introductory Note.

2 *sought out*—with earnest care and attention, as being most admirable and worthy of their whole regard. Compare Ps. cxl.iii. 5.

5 *He giveth &c.*—See Ps. xxxiv. 9.

6 HE proclaimeth the might of His works, unto His people;

HE giveth unto them the inheritance of the heathen.

7 The works of His hands are truth and equity;

All His statutes are sure.

8 They are sustained for ever and ever;

They are made in truth and rectitude. 508

9 HE sendeth redemption unto His people;

HE appointeth His covenant for ever:

Holy and reverend is His Name! ver. 16:3

10 The reverence of JEHOVAH is the beginning of wisdom;

A good understanding have all those, who do them.

HIS praise endureth for ever!

7 *sure*—i. e. firm and unalterable.  
“It is easier for heaven and earth  
to pass, than one tittle of the Law  
to fail.” Luke xvi. 17.

10 *them*—i. e. His statutes. See  
ver. 7.  
— *His praise*—Compare Ps. cxlv.  
21.

## PSALM CXII.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

Happy the man, who reverenceth JEHOVAH—

Who hath great <sup>451</sup>delight in His commandments!

2 His seed shall be mighty upon the earth;

The race of the <sup>502</sup>upright shall be blessed.

3 Plenty and riches are in his house;

And his goodness shall continue for ever.

4 There springeth up, in darkness, light unto the upright—<sup>502</sup>

Unto the kind, and merciful, and righteous man.

5 Well shall it be to the man, who is kind, and lendeth!

He shall maintain his cause in the judgment.

6 For he shall never be moved;

The righteous man shall be remembered for ever.

7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings;

His heart is established, trusting in JEHOVAH.

## CXII.

This Psalm also is alphabetical, each line, in the Hebrew, beginning with a different letter. Compare Ps. xxv. Introductory Note.

1 *delight*—Compare Ps. i. 2.

3 *his goodness*—i. e. the reward of his goodness.

4 *light*—even in adversity the good man experiences the favour of the Almighty.

5 *judgment*—Compare Ps. i. 5.

8 His heart is sustained, he hath no fear;

Until he see the fall of his enemies.

9 He disperseth, he giveth to the poor; *mercy*

His goodness shall continue for ever.

His horn is exalted, with honour. *glory*

10 The wicked man seeth, and is grieved;

He gnasheth his teeth, and wasteth away.

The desire of the wicked cometh to nothing!

### PSALM CXIII.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

Praise, O ye servants of JEHOVAH!—

Praise ye the Name of JEHOVAH!

2 May the Name of JEHOVAH be blessed,

From henceforth, even for ever!

3 From the east unto the west,

Praised be the Name of JEHOVAH!

4 JEHOVAH is exalted above all nations,

His glory is above the heavens!

5 Who is like unto JEHOVAH, our God?

6 He sitteth on high in the heavens;

He looketh down upon the earth!

8 *Until &c.*—Compare Ps. xciv. 13.  
— *see the fall*—See Ps. Liv. 7.  
Note.

9 *disperseth*—i. e. distributeth his  
wealth freely to the needy.

9 *horn*—See Ps. xviii. 2. Note.  
CXIII.

3 *from the east &c.*—See Ps. l. 1.  
Note.

6 See Ps. x. 5. Note 2.



- 7 HE raiseth the needy out of the dust;  
 HE lifteth the poor from the dunghill;  
 8 HE maketh him sit with princes,  
 Even with the princes of His people.  
 9 HE causeth the barren mistress of a house,  
 To be a joyful mother of children!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

## PSALM CXIV.

- 1 WHEN Israel came forth out of Egypt—  
 The house of Jacob from a people of strange language,  
 2 Judah was His sanctuary—  
 Israel, His dominion!  
 3 The sea beheld, and fled;  
 Jordan turned back!  
 4 The mountains leaped, as rams;  
 The hills, as young sheep!  
 5 What aileth thee, O sea! that thou fleest?  
 O Jordan, that thou turnest back?  
 6 Ye mountains, that ye leap as rams?  
 Ye hills, as young sheep?  
 7 Tremble, O earth! at the presence of the Lord—  
 At the presence of the God of Jacob!  
 8 Who changeth the rock, into a pool of waters—  
 The flinty rock, into a fountain of waters!

8 maketh &c.—Heb. causeth him to dwell.

## CXIV.

- 1 strange &c.—See Ps. lxxxix. 5.  
 2 Judah &c.—i. e. God fixed His abode in the tribe of Judah. See Ps. lxxviii. 68.  
 2 Israel &c.—i. e. the people em-

powered by God to execute His will.

- 3 The sea &c.—Compare Ps. lxvi. 6. Notes 1 and 2.  
 — beheld—From verses 5 and 7, it appears that the sea fled, at the presence of God.  
 4 leaped—Compare Ps. xxix. 6.

## PSALM CXV.

1 NOT for our sake, O JEHOVAH!—not for our sake,  
 But for Thy Name's sake, set forth Thy glory;  
 Out of regard to Thy loving-kindness—  
 Out of regard to Thy truth!

2 Why should the heathen say:  
 "Where now is their God?"

3 Our God is in heaven!  
 HE doeth whatsoever it pleaseth Him!  
 45)

4 Their idols are silver and gold—  
 The work of men's hands.

5 They have mouths—and they speak not!  
 They have eyes—and they see not!

6 They have ears—and they hear not!  
 They have noses—and they smell not!

7 They have hands—and they handle not!  
 They have feet—and they walk not!  
 They breathe no sound through their throat!

8 Like unto them, are those, who make them—  
 All, who put their trust in them.

9 O Israel! trust in JEHOVAH!

HE is their help, and their shield!

10 O house of Aaron! trust in JEHOVAH!

HE is their help, and their shield!

## CXV.

1 *Thy Name's sake*—"Therefore say unto the house of Israel, Thus saith the Lord God; I do not this for your sakes, O house of Israel, but for mine holy name's sake, which ye have profaned among the heathen, whither ye went." Ezek. xxxvi. 22.

1 *Thy glory*—Heb. *glory*. The people here pray that God would openly manifest Himself as their protector.

— *truth*—This refers especially to the promises made to the patriarchs.

8 *Like unto them*—i. e. just as irrational and senseless.

11 O ye, who reverence JEHOVAH! put your trust in JEHOVAH!

He is their help, and their shield!

12 JEHOVAH is mindful of us!

He will bless—He will bless the house of Israel,

He will bless the house of Aaron!

13 He will bless those, who reverence JEHOVAH,

Both the small and the great!

14 JEHOVAH will increase you—

You, and your children!

15 Blessed be ye of JEHOVAH,

Maker of heaven and earth!

16 The heavens—the heavens belong unto JEHOVAH;

And the earth He hath given unto the sons of men.

17 The dead praise not JEHOVAH,

Yea, none, who go down into the silent grave.

18 But as for us, we will bless JEHOVAH,

Henceforth, and for evermore!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

## PSALM CXVI.

1 I AM well pleased, that JEHOVAH hath heard

My voice, yea, my supplications.

2 Because He hath inclined His ear unto me,

I will call upon Him, as long as I live.

3 The snares of death hemmed me in,

And the bands of the grave took hold of me;

I found trouble, and affliction.

16 *belong unto &c.*—i. e. are the place of His especial residence.

— *And the earth &c.*—Compare Ps. viii. vv. 6—8.

17 *praise*—Compare Ps. vi. 5. and Note.

17 *silent grave*—Heb. *silence*.

CXVI.

2 *as long &c.*—Heb. *through my days*.

3 *took hold of*—Heb. *found or reached*.

4 Then I called upon the Name of JEHOVAH:

"I pray Thee now, O JEHOVAH! rescue my life!"

5 Gracious is JEHOVAH and righteous,

Yea, our God is merciful!

6 JEHOVAH preserveth the simple;

I was brought low, and He hath helped me.

7 Return unto thy rest, O my soul!

For JEHOVAH hath dealt kindly with thee.

8 Truly, Thou hast rescued me from death;

Thou hast kept mine eyes from tears—

My feet from being overthrown.

9 I shall walk before JEHOVAH,

In the land of the living!

10 I have felt confidence, though I said:

"I am greatly afflicted!"—

11 As for me, I have said, when fleeing in terror:

"All men are deceitful!"

12 What shall I render unto JEHOVAH,

For all His benefits to me?

13 I will lift up the cup of salvation,

And I will call upon the Name of JEHOVAH.

14 I will fulfil my vows unto JEHOVAH,

Even in the sight of all His people!

15 Precious, in the eyes of JEHOVAH,

Is the death of His pious worshippers.

7 *Return unto thy rest*—i. e. again be tranquil.

8 Compare Ps. lvi. 13.

10 *confidence*—in Jehovah, and not in any human power.

13 *the cup of salvation*—the offering made for safety and victory in battle.

15 *Precious &c.*—i. e. Jehovah, out of His regard to His faithful servants, will on no account allow them to be destroyed by their enemies. Compare Ps. lxxii. 14. Opposed to this is the expression in Ps. xli. 12.

- 16 I pray Thee now, O JEHOVAH!—for I am Thy servant,  
I am Thy servant, the son of Thy handmaid.

Thou hast loosed my bonds.

- 17 Unto Thee will I offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
And I will call upon the Name of JEHOVAH.  
18 I will fulfil my vows unto JEHOVAH,  
Even in the sight of all His people—  
19 In the courts of the house of JEHOVAH—  
In the midst of thee, O Jerusalem!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

### PSALM CXVII.

- 1 PRAISE JEHOVAH, all ye nations!  
Laud Him, all ye people!  
2 For great is His loving-kindness toward us,  
And the faithfulness of JEHOVAH endureth for ever!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

### PSALM CXVIII.

- 1 GIVE praise unto JEHOVAH, for He is good—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever.  
2 Let now Israel say:  
“For His loving-kindness endureth for ever.”  
3 Let now the house of Aaron say:  
“For His loving-kindness endureth for ever.”

16 *I pray Thee &c.*—i. e. I pray Thee now, O Jehovah, rescue my life. See ver. 4.  
— *the son of &c.*—Compare Ps. lxxxvi. 16. Note.

17 *sacrifice of thanksgiving*—Compare Ps. l. 14. Hosea (xiv. 2.) calls this sacrifice “the calves of our lips.” CXVIII.  
2 *For &c.*—Compare Ps. cxxxvi.

4 Let now those, who reverence JEHOVAH, say:

“For His loving-kindness endureth for ever.”

5 In distress I called upon JEHOVAH;

JEHOVAH answered me, and set me at large. *in a large, open*

6 JEHOVAH is on my side, I fear not!

What can man do unto me?

7 JEHOVAH is my helper,

Therefore do I see the fall of those, who hate me.

8 It is better to take refuge with JEHOVAH, *and*

Than to place confidence in man.

9 It is better to take refuge with JEHOVAH,

Than to place confidence in princes.

10 All the nations encompassed me!

But, in the Name of JEHOVAH, I destroyed them!

11 They encompassed me, yea, they encompassed me!

But, in the Name of JEHOVAH, I destroyed them!

12 They encompassed me, as bees!

They were extinguished, as a fire of thorns!

For, in the Name of JEHOVAH, I destroyed them!

13 Thou didst sorely thrust me downward, that I might fall,

But JEHOVAH helped me!

14 JEHOVAH is my strength, and song,

And He is become my salvation!

15 The voice of joy and salvation

Is in the tents of the righteous: *He*

“The right hand of JEHOVAH hath done valiantly!”

5 *In—Heb. out of.*  
—answered me &c.—Heb. answered  
me into enlargement. Compare Ps.  
vii. 5. Note 1.

7 *see &c.*—See Ps. liv. 7. Note.  
10 *All &c.*—i. e. the neighbouring  
heathen nations.

12 Compare Ps. lviii. 9. Note 2.

12 *fire of thorns*—Compare Ps.  
lviii. 9. Note 2. See also Isai. ix. 18.  
and xxxiii. 12.

13 *Thou*—i. e. my enemy.

14 *my strength, and song*—i. e.  
the source of my strength and the  
subject of my song.

15 *of the righteous*—who say:

- 16 "The right hand of JEHOVAH is exalted!  
 "The right hand of JEHOVAH hath done valiantly!"
- 17 I shall not die, but live,  
 And declare the works of JEHOVAH.
- 18 JEHOVAH hath chastised me sorely,  
 But He hath not given me over unto death.
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
 I will enter by them, I will praise JEHOVAH!
- 20 This is the gate of JEHOVAH;  
 The righteous enter in thereby.
- 21 I will praise Thee, for Thou hast answered me,  
 And hast been my salvation!
- 22 The stone, which the builders rejected,  
 Is become the chief corner-stone!
- 23 By JEHOVAH hath this been done;  
 It is wonderful in our eyes!
- 24 This is the day, which JEHOVAH hath appointed;  
 Let us exult, and rejoice in it:
- 25 "I pray now, O JEHOVAH! bring salvation!  
 "I pray now, O JEHOVAH! send prosperity!"
- 26 "Blessed be he who entereth, in the Name of JEHOVAH!  
 "We bless you, from the house of JEHOVAH!
- 27 "JEHOVAH is God, and He showeth us light.  
 "Bind the festal sacrifice with cords;  
 "Lead it unto the horns of the altar."

19 *gates of righteousness*—i. e. the gates by which the righteous worshippers enter the temple.

— *enter*—the house of God.

22 Jehovah hath brought it to pass that he, whose claims and pretensions were utterly disregarded by men, should attain to the highest rank among his people. Upon the application of this passage to the Messiah, consult Ps. xvi. 9. Note 1.

21 *hath appointed*—for accomplishing His gracious purposes towards us.

26 This and the following verse seem to contain the salutation of the priests, when advancing from the house of God to meet the procession (vv. 19, 20).

27 *light*—i. e. favour. Compare Ps. lxvii. 1.

— *Lead it unto*—Heb. *unto*.

- 28 Thou art my God, and I will praise Thee—  
My God, and I will exalt Thee!
- 29 Give praise unto JEHOVAH, for He is good—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever.

## PSALM CXIX.

- 1 HAPPY those, who are upright in the way—  
Those, who walk in the law of JEHOVAH!
- 2 Happy those, who keep His testimonies—  
Who seek Him, with their whole heart!
- 3 Yea, those, who do not practise evil,  
But walk in His ways!
- 4 Thou hast enjoined Thine ordinances,  
That they may be strictly kept.
- 5 O that my ways were so established,  
That I might keep Thy statutes!
- 6 Then shall I not be put to shame,  
When I have regard to all Thy commandments.
- 7 I will praise Thee, with sincerity of heart,  
When I learn Thy righteous judgments.
- 8 Thy statutes will I keep;  
Do not Thou forsake me utterly!
- 9 By what means may a young man keep his path pure?  
By setting a guard over it, according to Thy word.

## CXIX.

This Psalm is alphabetical. Compare Ps. xxv. Introductory Note. In the first portion, containing eight verses, each verse commences with the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet. In the second portion, also containing eight verses, each verse commences with the second letter, and so on.

1 *those, who are &c.*—i. e. those whose course of life accords with the precepts of religion.

1 *walk in*—i. e. live conformably to.  
2 *keep His testimonies*—i. e. observe His revealed will.

3 *my ways*—The Psalmist here applies to himself the general precept of the preceding verse. Compare Ps. xix. 11.

7 *sincerity*—Heb. *rectitude*.  
— *When I learn &c.*—i. e. The more diligently I study Thy law, the more do I find cause to admire and praise Thee for its excellency.

9 *Thy word*—Compare ver. 130.



- 10 With my whole heart, do I seek Thee ;  
 Let me not go astray from Thy commandments !
- 11 Within my heart, do I treasure up Thy words,  
 That I may not sin against Thee.
- 12 Blessed be Thou, O JEHOVAH !  
 O teach me Thy statutes.
- 13 With my lips, will I declare  
 All the judgments of Thy mouth.
- 14 I delight in the way of Thy testimonies,  
 As much as in all riches !
- 15 Upon Thine ordinances do I meditate,  
 And I have regard to Thy paths.
- 16 In Thy statutes do I delight myself ;  
 I do not forget Thy word.
- 17 Deal kindly with Thy servant ;  
 O let me live, that I may keep Thy word !
- 18 Open mine eyes,  
 That I may behold the wonders of Thy law.
- 19 I am a stranger upon the earth ;  
 Do not Thou hide from me Thy commandments !
- 20 My spirit is broken,  
 With longing continually after Thy judgments.
- 21 THOU rebukest wilful transgressors ;  
 Cursed are those, who go astray from Thy commandments !
- 22 Remove from me reproach and contempt,  
 For I have kept Thy testimonies.
- 23 Though princes sit consulting, and speak against me,  
 Thy servant meditateth upon Thy statutes.
- 24 Yea, Thy testimonies are my delight,  
 They are my counsellors !

13 *will I declare*—openly to others.  
*— judgments of Thy mouth*—Thine  
 ordinances, or commandments. Com-  
 pare Ps. xix. 9.

14 Compare ver. 72.

17 *Deal kindly*—Compare Ps. cxvi. 7.

19 *I am &c.*—Compare vv. 54, 176.  
 See also Ps. xxxix. 12. Note.

21 *Cursed*—i. e. obnoxious to those  
 punishments, which have been de-  
 nounced against their wickedness by  
 the Almighty.

- 25 My soul cleaveth unto the dust ;  
Revive me, according to Thy promise.
- 26 I declare my ways before Thee, and Thou answerest me ;  
O teach me Thy statutes.
- 27 Make me to understand the way of Thine ordinances,  
And I will meditate upon Thy wonders.
- 28 My spirit droopeth from anxiety ;  
Raise Thou me up, according to Thy promise.
- 29 Remove from me the way of falsehood,  
And graciously afford me Thine instruction.
- 30 I choose the way of truth ;  
I place directly before me Thy judgments.
- 31 I cleave unto Thy testimonies, O JEHOVAH !  
Let me not be put to shame !
- 32 I will run in the way of Thy commandments,  
For Thou enlargest my heart.
- 33 Teach me the way of Thy statutes, O JEHOVAH !  
And I will keep it unto the end.
- 34 Give me discernment, that I may keep Thy law,  
Yea, that I may observe it with my whole heart.
- 35 Make me to walk in the path of Thy commandments,  
For I delight therein. 451
- 36 Incline my heart unto Thy testimonies,  
And not unto covetous gain.
- 37 Turn away mine eyes from looking upon vanity,  
Make me active in Thy ways.
- 38 Confirm unto Thy servant Thy promise,  
Which Thou hast made to those, who reverence Thee.

25 *I declare &c.*—i. e. I am wont to appeal unto Thee, as to the general conduct of my life.

28 *droopeth*—Heb. *droppeth* (tears).

29 *graciously afford &c.*—Heb. *be gracious unto me with Thy law.*

30 *I place &c.*—Compare Ps. xvi. 8.

32 *I will run in the way of*—i. e. I will diligently live according to.

32 *For Thou enlargest my heart*—i. e. enablest me to comprehend Thy statutes.

33 *unto the end*—of my life.

36 *covetous gain*—Compare Ps. x. 3.

37 Compare Ps. lxvi. 18. and Note.

38 *to those &c.*—Heb. *to the reverence of Thee.*

- 39 Remove from me the reproach, which I have dreaded;  
For Thy judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I have longed after Thine ordinances,  
Revive me, according to Thy mercy.
- 41 May Thy loving-kindness come unto me, O JEHOVAH!—  
Thy salvation, according to Thy promise!
- 42 Let me give an answer to him, who upbraideth me,  
For I place my trust in Thy word.
- 43 Do not entirely deprive me of a true answer,  
For I wait in confidence for Thy judgments.
- 44 I will keep Thy law continually,  
For ever and ever!
- 45 Let me walk in a wide place,  
For I have sought out Thine ordinances.
- 46 I will speak of Thy testimonies before kings,  
And will not be ashamed.
- 47 I delight myself in Thy commandments,  
Which I have loved.
- 48 I receive reverently Thy commandments, which I have loved,  
And I meditate upon Thy statutes.
- 49 Remember Thy promise unto Thy servant,  
Upon which Thou hast made me rest my hope.
- 50 This is my comfort in mine affliction;  
Truly, Thy promise reviveth me.
- 51 Presumptuous sinners have me greatly in derision;  
I will not swerve from Thy law.
- 52 I call to mind, O JEHOVAH! Thy judgments of old,  
And I am comforted.

42 *give an answer*—by referring to some manifestation of Thy interference in my behalf.

43 *Do not &c.*—Heb. *do not snatch out of my mouth an answer of truth altogether.*

45 *walk in a wide place*—i. e. not be brought into strait or difficulty.

48 *I receive reverently*—Heb. *I raise my hands towards.*

50 *This*—the promise mentioned in the preceding verse.

- 53 A burning heat hath seized me, because of the wicked,  
Who desert Thy law.
- 54 THY statutes have been my songs,  
In the house of my sojourning.
- 55 By night, I call to mind Thy Name, O JEHOVAH!  
And I will keep Thy law.
- 56 This is my portion;  
That I will keep Thy statutes.
- 57 My portion, O JEHOVAH! I say,  
Is to keep Thy precepts.
- 58 With my whole heart do I entreat Thy favour;  
Be Thou gracious unto me, according to Thy promise.
- 59 I think upon my ways;  
And turn my feet unto Thy testimonies.
- 60 I hasten, and delay not,  
To keep Thy commandments.
- 61 The snares of the wicked surround me; *at 7.4*  
I will not forget Thy law.
- 62 At midnight I will arise,  
To praise Thee, for Thy righteous judgments.
- 63 I am the companion of all, who reverence Thee,  
Yea, of those, who keep Thine ordinances.
- 64 The earth is filled with Thy loving-kindness, O JEHOVAH!  
Teach me Thy statutes.
- 65 THOU hast dealt kindly toward Thy servant,  
O JEHOVAH! according to Thy promise.
- 66 Teach me the excellency of understanding and knowledge, *493*  
For I trust in Thy commandments.

53 *A burning heat* — indignation and zeal. Compare Ps. xxxix. 3.

54 *house of my sojourning* — Compare ver. 19.

56 *This &c.* — Heb. *This is to me.* See ver. 50.

57 *portion* — Compare Ps. xvi. 5. Note 2.

58 *entreat Thy favour* — Heb. *soften Thy countenance.*

66 *trust* — i.e. that in keeping them there will be "great reward." Compare Ps. xix. 11.

- 67 Before I was afflicted, I went astray ;  
 But now do I keep Thy word.  
 68 Good and beneficent art Thou !  
 Teach me Thy statutes.  
 69 Presumptuous sinners frame a false charge against me ;  
 I will keep Thine ordinances, with my whole heart.  
 70 Their heart is senseless, as fat is ;  
 As for me, I delight in Thy law.  
 71 It is good for me, that I have been afflicted,  
 That I might learn Thy statutes.  
 72 The law of Thy mouth is dearer unto me,  
 Than thousands of gold and silver.  
 73 Thy hands have made and formed me ;  
 Give me discernment, that I may learn Thy commandments.  
 74 May those, who reverence Thee, rejoice when they see me,  
 Because I have waited in confidence for Thy word !  
 75 I acknowledge, O JEHOVAH ! that Thy judgments are right,  
 And that, in faithfulness, Thou hast afflicted me.  
 76 Let now Thy loving-kindness be my comfort,  
 According to Thy promise unto Thy servant.  
 77 Let Thy mercies come unto me, that I may live ;  
 For Thy law is my delight.  
 78 Let the proud be ashamed, for without cause they wrong me ;  
 As for me, I meditate upon Thine ordinances.

69 a false charge—Heb. *false-hood*.

70 as fat is—Heb. *as fat*. i. e. from the effects of self-indulgence. Compare Ps. xvii. 10. Note.

—*I delight*—"Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." John iv. 34.

71 Compare ver. 67. and Ps. xviii. Note 3.

72 Compare Ps. xix. 10.

74 *rejoice &c.*—i. e. May those pious persons, who were aware how entirely

I depended upon Thee, have occasion to rejoice, by witnessing my prosperity. Compare Ps. cxlii. 7.

75 *in faithfulness &c.*—i. e. During the severest trials I have found my God to be faithful to His promises. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man : but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able ; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." 1 Cor. x. 13.

- 79 Let those, who reverence Thee, turn unto me,  
Even those, who have regard for Thy testimonies.
- 80 May my heart be perfect in Thy statutes,  
That I may not be put to shame!
- 81 My spirit is wasted, with looking for Thy salvation;  
I wait earnestly for Thy promise.
- 82 Mine eyes are wasted, with looking for Thy promise,  
While I say: When wilt Thou comfort me?
- 83 Truly, I am as a skin, shrivelled by smoke;  
Yet do I not forget Thy statutes.
- 84 What are the days of Thy servant!  
When wilt Thou execute judgment upon my persecutors?
- 85 Presumptuous sinners have made pit-falls for me;  
Which thing is not commanded in Thy law.
- 86 All Thy commandments are true;  
They persecute me wrongfully, be Thou my helper.
- 87 They had almost made an end of me upon the earth,  
But, as for me, I forsook not Thy statutes.
- 88 According to Thy loving-kindness, preserve me alive,  
That I may keep the testimonies of Thy mouth.

79 *turn unto me*—unite themselves with me and rejoice in my deliverance. See ver. 74. Note. Compare also Ps. xciv. 15.

83 *as a skin &c.*—Heb. *as a skin in smoke*. Skins were used for holding liquids. These skins were liable to become shrivelled by being exposed to the action of smoke, for which, in moveable tents, there was no regular outlet.

84 *What*—i. e. How few. Compare Ps. xxxix. 5.

85 *have made pit-falls*—Heb. *have dug pits*.

— *Which thing is not &c.*—This amounts to a declaration that such conduct of the wicked, so far from being approved of, is strictly forbid-

den and will be visited with the severest punishment. A negative form of expression is here employed to give the greater emphasis. "And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my heart." Jeremiah vii. 31. Compare also Ps. v. 4. Note 1.

86 *wrongfully*—This appears to refer to what had been figuratively described in the preceding verse.

87 *upon the earth*—so that I should no longer walk upon the earth, but go down to the regions of the dead which are beneath it. See Ps. Lxiii. 9.

- 89 **THY** promise, O **JEHOVAH!** abideth for ever,  
Firmly established, as the heavens.
- 90 **THY** faithfulness continueth to all generations,  
**THOU** hast fixed the earth, and it standeth!
- 91 According to **Thy** decree, they stand unto this day,  
Because they all are **Thy** servants.
- 92 Had not **Thy** law been my delight,  
Ere now, should I have perished in mine affliction.
- 93 Never will I forget **Thine** ordinances,  
For by them **Thou** revivest me.
- 94 I am **Thine**, O save me,  
For I have sought out **Thine** ordinances.
- 95 The wicked lie in wait for me, to destroy me;  
But I will consider **Thy** testimonies.
- 96 To all perfection, I have seen a limit;  
But **Thy** commandment is unbounded!
- 97 How I love **Thy** law!  
All the day long, it is my meditation.
- 98 **THY** commandments make me wiser than mine enemies,  
For they are ever with me.
- 99 I have more understanding than all my teachers,  
For **Thy** testimonies are my meditation.
- 100 I have more discernment than the aged,  
For I keep **Thine** ordinances.

89 *as &c.*—This comparison frequently occurs in scripture, to express the stability of God's promises. "Thus saith the **LORD**, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar: The **LORD** of hosts is his name: If those ordinances depart from before me, saith the **LORD**, then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before me for ever." Jer. xxxi. 35, 36. "Heaven and

earth shall pass away: but *my words* shall not pass away." Luke xxi. 33. Compare Ps. lxxxix. 2.

90 *Thou hast &c.*—In the Hebrew this is expressed absolutely, not comparatively, as it is to be understood. See ver. 89.

91 *they*—i. e. the heavens and the earth. See 89, 90.

96 *unbounded*—Heb. *exceedingly ample*. i. e. in perfection. See Ps. xix. 7.

98 *For they &c.*—i. e. because **Thy** commandments are continually present to guide me.

- 101 I restrain my feet from every evil path,  
That I may keep Thy word.
- 102 I depart not from Thy judgments,  
For it is Thou, who teachest me.
- 103 How pleasant unto my taste is Thy word!  
It is sweeter than honey to my mouth.
- 104 Through Thine ordinances, I have discernment;  
Therefore do I hate every false way.
- 105 THY word is a lamp unto my feet,  
Yea, a light unto my path.
- 106 I have sworn—and I will perform it!—  
To keep Thy righteous judgments.
- 107 I am greatly afflicted;  
O JEHOVAH! revive me, according to Thy promise.
- 108 Accept now the free-will offerings of my mouth, O JEHOVAH!  
And teach me Thy judgments.
- 109 Continually is my life about to be cast away;  
Yet do I not forget Thy law.
- 110 Wicked men lay snares for me,  
But I do not go astray from Thine ordinances.
- 111 I hold, as my portion, Thy testimonies for ever,  
Truly, they are the delight of my heart.
- 112 I have inclined my heart to perform Thy statutes,  
For ever, even unto the end.
- 113 I hate vain imaginations;  
But Thy law do I love.
- 114 THOU art my hiding-place, and my shield,  
I wait in confidence for Thy word.

103 *my taste*—Heb. *my palate*.

— *sweeter*—Compare Ps. xix. 10.

106 *will perform it*—Heb. *cause to stand*.

108 *free-will offerings of my mouth*  
—i. e. the thanks and praise which I  
freely offer. Compare Ps. i. 14.

109 *about to be cast away*—Heb. *in the hollow of my hand*. For the origin of this proverbial expression, consult Judg. xii. 3. 1 Sam. xxv. 29. and Job xiii. 14.

111 *I hold as my portion*—Heb. *I possess*. See ver. 57.



115 Depart from me, ye wicked!

For I will keep the commandments of my God.

116 Sustain me, according to Thy promise, that I may live,

And do not disappoint me of my hope.

117 Support me, that I may be preserved,

And I will look unto Thy statutes continually.

118 Thou hast rejected all, who go astray from Thy statutes;

Truly, their guile is fruitless.

119 Thou putttest away all the wicked of the land, as dross,

Therefore do I love Thy testimonies.

120 My hair standeth erect through fear,

For I am afraid of Thy judgments.

121 I have executed righteous judgment;

Give me not up to mine oppressors.

122 Give a pledge unto Thy servant for good;

Let not presumptuous sinners oppress me.

123 Mine eyes are wasted away, with looking for Thy salvation,

And for Thy righteous promise.

124 Deal with Thy servant, according to Thy loving-kindness,

And teach me Thy statutes.

125 I am Thy servant; give me discernment,

That I may understand Thy testimonies.

126 It is time for JEHOVAH to act;

Men have broken Thy law!

127 Therefore I love Thy commandments,

More than gold, yea, more than fine gold.

128 Therefore do I hold all Thine ordinances to be right;

I hate every false way.

118 *fruitless*—Heb. *vain or deceitful*. i. e. fails to attain its object.

119 *putttest away*—Heb. *causest to cease*.

120 *my hair*—Heb. (the hair of) *my flesh*. "Then a spirit passed before my face; the hair of my flesh stood up." Job iv. 13.

121 *righteous judgment*—Heb. *judgment even righteousness*.

122 *for good*—i. e. that Thou wilt do him good.

126 *to act*—i. e. to inflict deserved punishment upon the rebellious.

127 *Therefore*—i. e. upon a general review of God's dealings towards mankind.

- 129 Wonderful are Thy testimonies!  
Therefore will I keep them.
- 130 The opening of Thy book enlighteneth,  
Giving discernment unto the simple.
- 131 I open wide my mouth, and pant eagerly,  
For I long for Thy commandments.
- 132 Turn unto me, and be gracious to me,  
As is Thy manner toward those, who love Thy Name.
- 133 Establish my feet by Thy word,  
And let not any iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Deliver me from the oppressions of men,  
That I may keep Thine ordinances.
- 135 Show the light of Thy countenance unto Thy servant,  
And teach me Thy statutes.
- 136 Mine eyes stream down with water,  
For men keep not Thy law.
- 137 Righteous art Thou, O JEHOVAH!  
And <sup>578</sup>upright are Thy judgments.
- 138 Thy testimonies, which Thou hast enjoined, are righteous,  
And altogether faithful.
- 139 My zeal consumeth me,  
Because mine enemies have forgotten Thy words.
- 140 Thy word is most pure,  
Therefore Thy servant loveth it.
- 141 I am of mean condition, and despised,  
Yet do I not forget Thine ordinances.
- 142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness,  
And Thy law is truth.

130 the opening of Thy book—Heb. the opening of Thy words.

131 pant eagerly—Heb. draw in the air. In a simple state of society, inward emotions were accompanied with more of corresponding outward action, than is exhibited where civilization is more advanced.

133 have dominion—See Ps. xix. 13.

136 mine eyes stream down—Heb. mine eyes descend with streams.

138 Thy &c.—Heb. Thou hast enjoined righteousness.

— faithful—Heb. faithfulness.

140 most pure—Heb. refined (as silver in the furnace). Compare Ps. xii. 6.

141 of mean condition—Heb. little.

- 143 Trouble and anguish have overtaken me;  
 Thy commandments are my delight. 122  
 144 The righteousness of Thy testimonies is everlasting;  
 Give me discernment, that I may live.  
 145 I call with my whole heart;  
 Answer me, O JEHOVAH! I will observe Thy statutes.  
 146 I call upon Thee, O save me!  
 That I may keep Thy testimonies.  
 147 Before the morning dawn I cry aloud;  
 I wait earnestly for Thy promises.  
 148 Mine eyes anticipate the watches of the night, 148  
 That I may meditate upon Thy word.  
 149 Hear my voice, according to Thy loving-kindness;  
 According to Thy judgments, O JEHOVAH! revive me.  
 150 Those, who pursue wicked devices draw nigh, 150  
 Even those, who are far from Thy law.  
 151 Near at hand art Thou, O JEHOVAH!  
 And all Thy commandments are true.  
 152 Long have I known of Thy testimonies,  
 That Thou hast established them for ever.  
 153 Behold mine affliction, and rescue me,  
 For I do not forget Thy law.  
 154 Plead Thou my cause, and redeem me, 154  
 Revive me, according to Thy promise.  
 155 Far from the wicked is salvation,  
 For they do not search out Thy statutes.  
 156 Manifold are Thy mercies, O JEHOVAH!  
 Revive me, according to Thy judgments.  
 157 Many are my persecutors, and mine enemies; *persecutors*  
 Yet I decline not from Thy testimonies.

144 *live*—i. e. live happily.

147 *Before the &c.*—Heb. *I am before hand with the morning dawn and cry aloud.*

148 *anticipate &c.*—I am already awake before the different watches of

the night begin, and therefore need no warning from them.

149 *judgments*—towards Thy faithful servants. Compare ver. 132.

151 *near at hand*—present to save.

156 *judgments*—See ver. 149. Note.

- 158 When I see perfidious men, I am grieved,  
Because they keep not Thy word.
- 159 Look upon me, for I love Thine ordinances;  
O JEHOVAH! revive me, according to Thy loving-kindness.
- 160 The sum of Thy word is truth, *According to AV. added text*  
And all Thy righteous judgments are everlasting.
- 161 Princes persecute me, without cause, *Prov. 15:5*  
But my heart standeth in awe of Thy word.
- 162 I rejoice over Thy word,  
As one, who findeth much spoil.
- 163 I hate, yea, I abhor falsehood;  
But Thy law do I love.
- 164 Seven times a day do I praise Thee,  
Because of Thy righteous judgments.
- 165 There is much prosperity to those, who love Thy law,  
And they meet with no stone of stumbling.
- 166 I hope for Thy salvation, O JEHOVAH!  
And practise Thy commandments.
- 167 I keep Thy testimonies,  
Yea, greatly do I love them.
- 168 I keep Thine ordinances, and Thy testimonies,  
For all my ways are before Thee.
- 169 Let my cry come before Thee, O JEHOVAH!  
Give me discernment, according to Thy word.
- 170 Let my supplication enter into Thy presence;  
O deliver me, according to Thy promise!

158 *grieved*—See Ps. cxxxix. 21.  
Note.

159 *Look upon me*—Heb. *behold*.

160 *The sum*—Heb. *the head*.

161 *standeth in awe*—See Prov. xxviii. 14. Note 1.

162 — “The kingdom of heaven is like unto a treasure hid in a field; the which when a man hath found he hideth and for joy thereof goeth and

selles all that he hath and buyeth that field.” Matt. xiii. 44.

164 *Seven times*—i. e. frequently. The number seven is often used for any large indefinite number. See Ps. xii. 6. Note 2.

165 *stone*—See Ps. xci. 12.

168 *before Thee*—i. e. perfectly known to Thee. Compare Prov. v. 21.

- 171 My lips shall pour forth praise,  
Because Thou teachest me Thy statutes.
- 172 My tongue shall sing of Thy word,  
For all Thy commandments are righteous.
- 173 Let Thy hand bring me help,  
For I have chosen Thine ordinances.
- 174 I long for Thy salvation, O JEHOVAH!  
And Thy law is my delight.
- 175 Let me live, that I may praise Thee;  
And let Thy sentence help me.
- 176 I wander, as a lost sheep;  
Seek Thy servant, for I forget not Thy commandments.

## PSALM CXX.

- 1 UPON JEHOVAH do I call in my trouble,  
And He answereth me:  
2 O JEHOVAH! deliver me from lying lips—  
From the deceitful tongue.
- 3 What shall He give unto thee?  
Yea, what more shall He give unto thee,  
O thou false tongue?
- 4 Even the sharp arrows of the Mighty One,  
With burning coals of the juniper.

175 *Thy sentence*—thy decision in my favour.

176 *as a lost sheep*—unprotected and harassed.

## CXX.

2 This is the Psalmist's supplication.

3 *what more shall He give*—Heb. *what shall He add* (to give).

— *O thou false tongue*—i. e. O man of false tongue. The offence being in this instance committed by the tongue, punishment is represented as being especially awarded to it.

4 Calumny and falsehood being frequently represented by the images of arrows and fire, the same images suitably express the requital which awaits them at the hand of God. "A fire, not blown, shall consume him." Job xx. 26. Compare Ps. ii. 6. Ps. Lvii. 4. and Ps. Lxiv. 3. 7. 9.

— *the juniper*—a species of broom, which burns fiercely and produces an intense heat. The fiery arrows here described as the weapons of the Almighty, are his lightnings. Compare Ps. vii. 13. Note 2. and Ps. xviii. 14.

- 5 Woe unto me! that I sojourn with Meshek—  
That I dwell among the tents of Kedar!
- 6 Too long hath my soul dwelt  
With those, who hate peace!  
I am for peace!  
But when I speak thereof,  
These men are for battle!

## PSALM CXXI.

- 1 I LIFT up mine eyes toward the mountains,  
Whence will come my help.
- 2 My help will come from JEHOVAH,  
Maker of heaven and earth!
- 3 HE will not suffer thy foot to be moved;  
Thy guardian will not slumber.
- 4 Behold, the guardian of Israel  
Neither slumbereth, nor sleepeth!
- 5 JEHOVAH will be thy guardian;  
JEHOVAH will shade thee, upon thy right-hand.

5 *Meshek...Kedar!* — Under the names of these barbarous tribes, the Psalmist designates his enemies.

## CXXI.

1 *the mountains*—upon which the temple stands. "When he (the stranger) shall come and pray *towards this house*; hear Thou in heaven, Thy dwelling-place." "If Thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever Thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the Lord *toward the city* which Thou hast chosen, and *toward the house* that I have built for Thy Name; then hear Thou in heaven their prayer." 1 Kings viii. 42—44. Compare Ps. xiv. 7. Ps. xx. 3. Ps. cxxxviii. 2.

3 This and the remaining verses of the Psalm contain an assurance that the divine aid will be afforded.

4 *Neither slumbereth &c.*—i. e. relaxes not His vigilance by indulging in light slumbers during the day, nor even by sleeping in the night, when the tired frame of man seeks and demands repose. The custom of seeking refreshment by sleep during the day is referred to by Elijah, when (at noon) he said of Baal "Peradventure he sleepeth and must be awaked." 1 Kings xviii. 27. Opposed to the character above given to the guardian of Israel, is the description of the watchmen spoken of by the prophet Isaiah—"sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber." Isai. lvi. 10.

- 6 By day, the sun shall not smite thee,  
Nor the moon, by night.  
7 JEHOVAH will guard thee from all evil,  
He will guard thy life.  
8 JEHOVAH will guard thy going out, and thy coming in,  
Henceforth, even for evermore!

## PSALM CXXII.

- 1 I REJOICE, when they say unto me:  
"Let us go unto the house of JEHOVAH!"  
2 "Our feet shall stand  
"Within thy gates, O Jerusalem!"  
3 Jerusalem! Thou that art built,  
As a city, altogether compact!—  
4 Whither the tribes go up—  
The tribes of JEHOVAH,  
According to the testimony given unto Israel,  
To give praise unto the Name of JEHOVAH!  
5 For there are set the thrones of judgment—  
The thrones of the house of David!  
6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!  
May those prosper, who love thee!  
7 May peace be within thy bulwarks—  
Prosperity within thy citadels!  
8 For the sake of my brethren and my friends,  
I will say: May peace be within thee!  
9 For the sake of the house of JEHOVAH, our God,  
I will seek thy good.

5 *shade thee*—Heb. *be thy shadow*.  
i. e. protect thee from the heat of the sun. The same image is employed by Isaiah, who (xxv. 4.) describes the Almighty as a "shadow from the heat."

6 You shall be injured neither by the scorching heat of the day, nor by the extreme cold of the night.

## CXXII.

- 1 *they*—i. e. men.  
3 *a city &c.*—Heb. *as a city to which there is altogether union*.  
4 *testimony &c.*—i. e. the revelation afforded to the Israelites. Deut. xvi. 16.  
9 *seek*—by prayer.

## PSALM CXXIII.

- 1 UNTO Thee, do I lift up mine eyes,  
O Thou, who sittest enthroned in the heavens!
- 2 Behold, as the eyes of servants  
Are upon the hand of their masters—  
As the eyes of a maiden  
Are upon the hand of her mistress;  
So are our eyes upon JEHOVAH, our God,  
Until He be gracious unto us.
- 3 Be gracious unto us, O JEHOVAH! be gracious unto us;  
For we are filled, to the full, with contempt;
- 4 We are filled, to the full,  
With the scorn of the insolent—  
With the contempt of the proud.

## PSALM CXXIV.

- 1 "HAD it not been JEHOVAH, who was with us"—  
May Israel now say:
- 2 "Had it not been JEHOVAH, who was with us,  
"When men rose up against us;
- 3 "They had long ago swallowed us up alive,  
"When their anger was hot against us—
- 4 "Long ago, had the waters overwhelmed us—  
"Had the torrent gone over us—
- 5 "Long ago, had there gone over us,  
"The swelling waters!"

## CXXIII.

- 2 *Are upon the hand of their masters*—when expecting to receive some token of their master's favour.
- 4 *the insolent*—Heb. *those, who*

*are at ease*, and owing to their prosperity behave with overweening pride. Ezekiel (xvi. 49.) connects "pride," "fulness of bread," and "abundance of idleness."



6 Blessed be JEHOVAH!

Who hath not given us up, a prey unto their teeth!

7 We are escaped, as a bird, from the snare of the fowler;

The snare is broken, and we are escaped!

8 Our help hath been in the Name of JEHOVAH,

Maker of heaven and earth!

### PSALM CXXV.

1 THOSE, who trust in JEHOVAH, are as mount Sion!

It cannot be moved, it abideth for ever!

2 The mountains are round about Jerusalem!

And JEHOVAH is round about His people,

Henceforth, even for evermore!

3 Truly, the sceptre of the wicked

Shall not rest upon the lot of the righteous;

Lest the righteous should put forth

Their hands unto iniquity.

4 Show kindness, JEHOVAH! toward the good,

Yea, toward the upright in heart.

5 But as for those, who turn aside into their crooked paths,

May JEHOVAH destroy them, with the workers of iniquity!

May peace be upon Israel!

### CXXV.

2 *And Jehovah is &c.*—Compare Ps. xxxiv. 7. and Note.

3 *rest*—i. e. remain for a long continuance.

— *lot*—i. e. inheritance. “And

Joshua cast *lots* for them in Shiloh before the LORD: and there Joshua divided the land unto the children of Israel according to their divisions.” Josh. xviii. 10.

5 *their crooked paths*—i. e. the paths of the workers of iniquity.

## PSALM CXXVI.

- 1 WHEN JEHOVAH brought back the captives of Sion,  
We were as men, in a dream!
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter,  
And our tongue with singing.  
Then said they among the nations:  
"JEHOVAH hath done great things for these men!"
- 3 JEHOVAH hath done great things for us,  
Therefore are we glad!
- 4 Bring back our captives, O JEHOVAH!  
As streams of water in a thirsty land!
- 5 May those, who sow in tears,  
Reap with songs of joy!
- 6 He goeth forth, weeping as he goeth,  
Bearing seed for his sowing!  
May he come home, with singing as he cometh,  
Bearing his sheaves with him!

## PSALM CXXVII.

- 1 IF JEHOVAH build not the house,  
Its builders labour thereon, in vain!  
If JEHOVAH guard not the city,  
In vain, is the watchman wakeful!

## CXXVI.

1 *men in a dream*—Our return to the land of our fathers was so unexpected, that we could scarcely believe it had really taken place.

4 Let the residue of our captives return, and let their return be followed by such blessings to their exhausted country, as currents of water

would bestow upon the parched desert.

4 *a thirsty land*—Heb. *the south*.

5 *sow in tears*—This prayer applies to that portion of the captives who first returned to Jerusalem, and were doubtful, from the insecure state of the country at the time, whether they should be allowed to enjoy the fruit of their labours.

2 Vain is your toil, O ye, who rise up early,  
 Who go late to rest,  
 Who eat the bread of care and trouble!  
 So He giveth sleep to His beloved ones!

3 Behold, children are a heritage from JEHOVAH;  
 The fruit of the womb is a reward from Him.  
 4 As arrows in the hand of the mighty warrior,  
 So are the sons of youthful parents.  
 5 Happy the man,  
 Whose quiver He filleth with them!  
 They shall not be confounded!  
 But they shall destroy their enemies at the gate!

## CXXVII.

2 *Vain is your toil*—Heb. (It is) *vanity to you*.

— *rise &c.—go late &c.*—thereby denying themselves their natural rest.

— *eat the bread &c.*—i. e. partake not of their food with cheerfulness and gratitude, from over anxiety of mind.

— *care &c.*—Opposed to this is our Saviour's exhortation, "Take no thought for the morrow." Matt. vi. 34. Thus "live not in careful suspense." Luke xii. 29. (Margin). Likewise the Apostle's injunction, "casting all your care upon Him for He careth for you," 1 Pet. v. 7. Compare Ps. xxxvii. 5. and Ps. l.v. 22.

— *So*—Excessive exertion, care, and watchfulness, ending in "vexation of spirit" as well as "weariness of the flesh," therefore God giveth &c.

— *He giveth &c.*—Sleep was graciously ordained by God, to recruit the exhausted frame of man; and those who trust in His favour enjoy their

repose, undisturbed by any feelings of anxiety. Compare Ps. iii. 5. and Notes, also Ps. iv. 8. and Notes 1, 2.

3 *children*—These are mentioned as being, like wealth, objects of great solicitude to mankind.

4 *So are &c.*—i. e. Equally formidable to their enemies are sons arrived at man's estate, while their father is still in the vigour of life.

— *of youthful parents*—Heb. *of youth*.

5 "—that in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea-shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies." Gen. xxii. 17. "And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them." Gen. xxiv. 60.

— *at the gate*—The main struggle between contending armies was usually at the gates of the besieged city.

## PSALM CXXVIII.

1 **HAPPY** every one, who reverenceth **JEHOVAH**—  
Who walketh in His ways!

2 Truly, thou shalt eat the labour of thy hands;  
O happy thou! yea, well it is with thee!

3 Thy wife shall be, as a fruitful vine,  
In the inner chambers of thy house;  
Thy children, as young olive plants,  
Round about thy table!

4 Behold, thus shall the man be blessed,  
Who reverenceth **JEHOVAH**!

5 **JEHOVAH** shall bless thee, out of Sion!  
And thou shalt see the prosperity of Jerusalem,  
All the days of thy life!

6 Yea, thou shalt see thy children's children!

May peace be upon Israel!

## PSALM CXXIX.

1 "**GREATLY** have they afflicted me, from my youth"—  
May Israel now say:

2 "Greatly have they afflicted me, from my youth;  
"Yet have they not prevailed over me.

## CXXVIII.

2 *the labour*—i. e. the fruit of the labour. Opposed to this assurance are the threats denounced against those who "walk not in His ways." "The fruit of thy land shall a nation which thou knowest not eat up." Deut. xxviii. 33. "Thou shalt plant a vineyard and not gather the grapes thereof." Deut. xxviii. 30.

3 *inner chambers*—the part of the

house appropriated to women. See Ps. xlv. 13.

## CXXIX.

1 *they*—i. e. the various enemies of Israel.

—*from my youth*—even from the time of my sojourning in Egypt. "When Israel was a *child*, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt." Hosea xi. 1.

- 3 "Ploughers have ploughed upon my back;  
 "They have drawn long furrows.  
 4 "JEHOVAH is righteous!  
 "He hath cut asunder the bands of the wicked!"
- 5 May all, who hate Sion,  
 Be put to shame and driven backward!  
 6 May they be as grass, upon the roof of the house,  
 Which, before it is plucked up, withereth—  
 7 With which the mower filleth not his hand,  
 Nor he, who bindeth the sheaves, his bosom!  
 8 Nor do those, who pass by, say:  
 "The blessing of JEHOVAH be upon you!"  
 "We bless you, in the Name of JEHOVAH!"

## PSALM CXXX.

- 1 OUT of the depths do I call upon Thee, O JEHOVAH!  
 2 Lord! hearken to my voice!  
 Let Thine ears be attentive  
 To the voice of my supplication!  
 3 If Thou, JEHOVAH! shouldest treasure up transgressions,  
 O Lord! who could stand?

3 *They have drawn &c.*—i. e. Mine enemies have, as it were, inflicted stripes upon me.

6 *grass*—This, when come to maturity, was usually mowed, but sometimes, was plucked up for the use of cattle.

7 *fillet not &c.*—i. e. the wicked shall not arrive at maturity. Opposed to this description of the premature fate of the wicked is the following passage, "Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season." Job v. 26.

8 *Nor do &c.*—Nor is the usual salutation, in the time of harvest, heard. "And, behold, Boaz came from Beth-lehem, and said unto the reapers, The LORD be with you. And they answered him, The LORD bless thee." Ruth ii. 4.

## CXXX.

This Psalm was probably written during the pressure of some heavy national calamity.

3 *treasure up*—i. e. in Thy memory to visit them upon the offender afterwards.

- 4 But with Thee there is forgiveness,  
Therefore shalt Thou be had in reverence.
- 5 I place my hope in JEHOVAH,  
My soul placeth her hope in Him,  
Yea, I wait in confidence for His promise.
- 6 My soul waiteth for the Lord,  
More earnestly than watchmen for the morning—  
Than watchmen wait for the morning.
- 7 O Israel! wait in confidence for JEHOVAH!  
For with JEHOVAH is loving-kindness,  
Yea, with Him is plenteous redemption!
- 8 HE will redeem Israel  
From all his iniquities!

## PSALM CXXXI.

- 1 O JEHOVAH! my heart is not proud,  
Nor are my looks lofty.  
I do not exercise myself in great matters,  
Yea, in matters, too difficult for me.
- 2 Of a truth, I compose and quiet my desires. *Q. 1. 2. 3. 4.*  
As is a weaned child unto its mother—  
As the weaned child, are my desires unto me.
- 3 O Israel! wait in confidence for JEHOVAH,  
Henceforth, even for evermore!

4 Compare Ps. LXV. 2, 3.

5 *His promise*—of deliverance.

6 *watchmen &c.*—The persons here referred to were probably the officers appointed to watch for the first opening of day, in order that the services of the temple might be duly and punctually performed.

8 *From all his iniquities*—i. e. from

the punishment due to them.

## CXXXI.

1 *proud*—Heb. *high*.

2 As a mother removes from her the child who is to be weaned, so do I put from me the desire which I ought to subdue.

— *my desires*—Heb. *my soul*.

## PSALM CXXXII.

- 1 O JEHOVAH! remember, in favour of David,  
All his trouble;
- 2 How he sware unto JEHOVAH,  
And made a vow unto the Mighty One of Jacob:
- 3 "I will not enter into my house;  
"I will not go up to my bed;
- 4 "I will not allow sleep to mine eyes,  
"Nor slumber to my eyelids;
- 5 "Until I shall have found a place for JEHOVAH—  
"A habitation for the Mighty One of Jacob."
- 6 Behold, we heard of it, at Ephrathah;  
We found it, in the fields of Jaar.
- 7 "Let us enter into His dwelling-place!  
"Let us bow down at His footstool!
- 8 "Arise, JEHOVAH! and enter into Thy resting-place—  
"Thou, and the ark of Thy might!
- 9 "Let Thy priests be clothed in righteousness,  
"And Thy pious worshippers sing aloud."

## CXXXII.

1 *his trouble*—i. e. his anxious care in bringing up the ark of God, and providing a place in which it might be safely deposited. "And David consulted with the captains.....and David said unto all the congregation.....Let us send abroad unto our brethren *everywhere*.....and let us bring again the ark of our God to us." 1 Chron. xiii. 1—3.

3 *my house*—Heb. *the tabernacle of my house*.

6 *heard of it*—i. e. of the ark. This probably refers to some event not recorded in the history of the Bible.

— *in the fields of Jaar*—"And David went up, and all Israel, to Baalah, that is, to Kirjath-jearim, which belonged to Judah, to bring

up thence the ark of God the LORD, that dwelleth between the cherubims, whose name is called on it." 1 Chron. xiii. 6.

8 *Arise, Jehovah*—In the journeying of the Israelites through the desert, this verse was part of the form of words used whenever the ark was carried forward. Solomon adopted it at the consecration of the temple. "Now therefore arise, O LORD God, into thy resting-place, thou, and the ark of thy strength." 2 Chron. vi. 41. Compare Ps. lxxviii. 1. Note.

— *and enter into*—Heb. *into*. See Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

9 *be clothed*—This expression is used with reference to the ornaments worn by the priests during their ministration. "I will greatly rejoice in

- 10 For the sake of David, Thy servant,  
Reject not the prayer of Thine anointed.
- 11 JEHOVAH hath sworn in truth unto David;  
HE will not depart therefrom:  
"Of the fruit of thy body, will I set upon thy throne!"
- 12 "If thy children shall keep My covenant,  
"And the testimony, which I shall teach them;  
"Their children also, for ever,  
"Shall sit upon thy throne!"
- 13 Of a truth, JEHOVAH hath chosen Sion;  
HE hath desired her, for a habitation for Himself:
- 14 "This is My resting-place for ever;  
"Here will I dwell, for I have desired her.
- 15 "I will surely bless her provisions;  
"Her poor will I satisfy with bread;
- 16 "Her priests also will I clothe with salvation,  
"And her pious worshippers shall sing aloud for joy.
- 17 "There will I cause the horn of David to flourish;  
"I will prepare a lamp for Mine anointed.
- 18 "His enemies will I clothe with shame;  
"But upon himself, shall his crown shine brightly."

the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels." Isai. Lxi. 10. Compare also Ps. xxix. 2. Note 2.

10 *Reject not the prayer*—Heb. *Turn not away Thy face*. "O LORD God, turn not away the face of thine anointed: remember the mercies of David thy servant." 2 Chron. vi. 42.

11 *Of the fruit of thy body*. i. e. Thy descendants.

16 Expressions similar to these are

recorded (2 Chron. vi. 41.) as having been used by Solomon, at the dedication of the temple.

17 *the horn*—Compare Ps. xviii. 2. Note.

— *a lamp*—This is an emblem of splendour and prosperity (see Ps. xviii. 28). Allusion is also made to the lamp in the tabernacle, which was to be kept always burning (Exod. xxvii. 20.), and an assurance is thus given that the family of David would never be extinguished. In the Messiah, who was "made of the seed of David according to the flesh," were these promises, in their fullest extent, completed.



## PSALM CXXXIII.

- 1 **BEHOLD**, how good, and how delightful it is,  
For brethren to live in unity!
- 2 It is as the precious oil upon the head,  
Which floweth down upon the beard—the beard of Aaron!—  
Which floweth down upon the hem of his garment!
- 3 It is as the dew upon Hermon—  
The dew, which cometh down upon the mountains of Sion!
- 4 For thereunto **JEHOVAH** ordaineth His blessing,  
Even prosperity, for evermore.

## PSALM CXXXIV.

- 1 **BEHOLD**, bless **JEHOVAH**, all ye servants of **JEHOVAH**!  
Ye, who stand, by night, in the house of **JEHOVAH**!
- 2 Lift up your hands toward the holy place,  
And bless ye **JEHOVAH**!
- 3 May **JEHOVAH**, Maker of heaven and earth,  
Bless thee, out of Sion!

## CXXXIII.

1 *to live*—Heb. *to dwell*.

2 *oil*—Compare Exod. xxx. 23–25.

— *Aaron*—Aaron, the first high priest seems to be here introduced to signify the whole series of high priests.

— *the hem*—i. e. the collar of his robe.

3 *of Sion*—The Sion here mentioned is not mount Sion upon which Jerusalem was built, but “mount Sion which is *Hermon*” (Deut. iv. 48).

4 *thereunto*—i. e. to union among brethren.—Heb. *there*. i. e. to the dwellings of such as are at unity.

## CXXXIV.

1 *stand*—i. e. ministering. It was the duty of the Priests (Levit. viii. 35.) and Levites (1 Chron. ix. 33.) to serve, day and night, in the house of God. Their nightly service alone, which was the most arduous, is here mentioned.

2 *toward &c.*—See Ps. xxviii. 2.

## PSALM CXXXV.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

Praise ye the Name of JEHOVAH!

Praise Him, ye servants of JEHOVAH!

2 Ye, who stand in the house of JEHOVAH—  
In the courts of the house of our God!

3 Praise ye JEHOVAH, for it is good!

JEHOVAH—hymn unto His Name, for it is delightful!

4 For JEHOVAH hath chosen Jacob for Himself—  
Israel, as His own possession.

5 Truly, I acknowledge that JEHOVAH is great,  
And that our Lord is above all gods!

6 All things, which it pleaseth Him, JEHOVAH doeth,  
In heaven and upon earth,  
In the seas, yea, in all deeps.

7 HE causeth the clouds to rise from the ends of the earth;  
HE maketh both the lightnings, and the rain;  
HE bringeth the wind out of His treasures!

8 Who smote the first-born of Egypt—  
Both of man, and of beast!

## CXXXV.

2 *stand*—Compare Ps. cxxxiv. 1. Note.

3 *good*—Compare Ps. xcii. 1. Note. and Ps. cxlvii. 1.

— *delightful*—a delightful thing to do so.

7 *from the ends &c.*—i. e. from the horizon.

— *both the &c.*—Heb. *lightnings to the rain.*

— *rain*—In sultry climates heavy rains and high winds generally ac-

company thunder and lightning. "When he uttereth *his voice*, there is a *multitude of waters* in the heavens, and he causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; he maketh lightnings with *rain*, and bringeth forth the wind out of his treasures." Jer. x. 13. Compare also Ps. xxix. 3. Note 2.

8 *Who smote*—(Praise ye Jehovah) who smote &c. The same words are to be supplied at the beginning of vv. 9 and 10.

- 9 Who sent signs and wonders,  
 Into the midst of thee, O Egypt!  
 Against Pharaoh, and against all his servants!
- 10 Who smote great nations,  
 And slew mighty kings—
- 11 Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
 And Og, the king of Bashan,  
 And all the kings of Canaan;
- 12 And gave their land, as an inheritance—  
 An inheritance to Israel, His people!
- 13 O JEHOVAH! Thy Name endureth for ever;  
 THY memorial, O JEHOVAH! to all generations!
- 14 Truly, JEHOVAH maintaineth the cause of His people, <sup>Ps. 136</sup>  
 And hath compassion upon His servants.
- 15 The idols of the heathen are silver and gold—  
 The work of men's hands!
- 16 They have mouths—and they speak not!  
 They have eyes—and they see not!
- 17 They have ears—and they hear not,  
 Yea, there is no breath in their mouths!
- 18 Like unto them, are those, who make them—  
 All, who put their trust in them.
- 19 O house of Israel, bless ye JEHOVAH!  
 O house of Aaron, bless ye JEHOVAH!
- 20 O house of Levi, bless ye JEHOVAH!  
 O ye, who reverence JEHOVAH, bless ye JEHOVAH!
- 21 Blessed out of Sion be JEHOVAH,  
 Who inhabiteth Jerusalem!
- Praise ye JEHOVAH!

9 *his servants*—the great officers of Pharaoh's kingdom.

10 *Who smote*—See Note ver. 8.

11 *kings*—Heb. *kingdoms*.

18 *Like unto them*—i. e. just as

irrational and senseless. Compare Ps. cxv. 4—8.

21 *Blessed out of Sion &c.*—i. e. May the holy city resound with the praises of Jehovah!

## PSALM CXXXVI.

- 1 GIVE praise unto JEHOVAH, for He is good—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 2 Give praise unto the God of gods!  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 3 Give praise unto the Lord of lords—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 4 Unto Him who alone doeth great wonders—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 5 Unto Him, who, by wisdom, hath made the heavens—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 6 Unto Him, who hath spread out the earth above the waters—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 7 Unto Him, who hath made great lights,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 8 The sun, to rule by day,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 9 The moon, and stars, to rule by night—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 10 Unto Him, who smote the first-born of the Egyptians,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 11 And brought out Israel from among them,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!

## CXXXVI.

1 *For His &c.*—This line, throughout the Psalm, is quite independent of the context.

2 *God of gods*—One, as being the Creator, infinitely higher than all others, His creatures, who have at any time been regarded as gods.

4 *alone*—solely by His own power.

6 *above the waters*—"Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the

earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth." Exod. xx. 4.

7 *lights*—i. e. luminaries. In the later books of scripture, the words which, in the original, properly signify "lights," are frequently thus used. In the Mosaic account of the Creation, on the other hand, distinct terms are in the Hebrew used for "light" and "luminary."

10 *first-born of the Egyptians*—Heb. *Egypt* in (the persons of) *their first-born*.

- 12 With a mighty hand, and with an extended arm—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 13 Unto Him, who cleft the Red sea into two parts,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 14 And made Israel pass through the midst of it,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 15 But shook off Pharaoh, and his host, into the Red sea—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 16 Unto Him, who led His people through the wilderness—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 17 Unto Him, who smote great kings,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 18 And slew renowned kings,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 19 Sihon, king of the Amorites,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 20 And Og, the king of Bashan,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 21 And gave their land, as an inheritance—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 22 An inheritance unto Israel, His servant—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 23 Who was mindful of us, when we were brought low,  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 24 And rescued us from our enemies—  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 25 Who giveth food to all flesh!  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!
- 26 Give praise unto the God of heaven!  
For His loving-kindness endureth for ever!

15 *shook off*.—The fate of Pharaoh and his army, when pursuing the Israelites, is compared to that of the swarm of locusts mentioned Exod. x. 19. Compare also Ps. cix. 23. and Exod. xiv. 27. (Margin).

## PSALM CXXXVII.

- 1 BY the rivers of Babylon—  
 There we sat down, yea, we wept,  
 When we remembered Sion!
- 2 Upon the willows, in the midst thereof,  
 We hanged our harps.
- 3 Then did those, who had led us away captive,  
 Require of us a song;  
 Yea those, who had cast us to the ground,  
 Required a song of joy:  
 "Sing us one of the songs of Sion."
- 4 How could we sing the song of JEHOVAH,  
 In a strange land?
- 5 If I forget thee, O Jerusalem!  
 May my right hand forget its skill!
- 6 May my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth,  
 If I do not remember thee—  
 If I do not raise Jerusalem,  
 Above my highest joy!
- 7 Remember, O JEHOVAH! the day of Jerusalem,  
 Against the children of Edom;  
 Who said: "Lay it bare—  
 "Lay it bare, even to its foundations!"
- 8 O daughter of Babylon, who art doomed to destruction!

## CXXXVII.

2 *in the midst thereof*—i. e. in the country of Babylon.

3 *a song of joy*—Heb. *joy*.

5 *forget its skill*—Heb. *forget*. i. e. lose the power of playing upon the harp.

6 *tongue cleave*—i. e. refuse to perform its office in singing.

— *my highest joy*—Heb. *the top of*

*my joy*. The Psalmist declares, in the strongest terms, that he will not indulge himself in the pleasure, arising from the sacred music of his country, during her desolation.

7 *the day &c.*—i. e. the day of her destruction.

8 *O daughter of Babylon*—i. e. O Babylon. Compare Ps. ix. 14.

— *who art doomed &c.*—Heb. *who art destroyed*.

- Happy he, who dealeth with thee,  
As thou hast dealt with us!
- 9 Happy he, who seizeth thy little ones,  
And dasheth them against the stones!

## PSALM CXXXVIII.

- 1 I WILL praise Thee, with my whole heart;  
In the presence of the gods, will I hymn Thee.
- 2 I will bow down, toward Thy holy temple,  
And praise Thy Name, for Thy mercy, and for Thy truth;  
For Thou hast magnified Thy word, above all Thy Name!
- 3 In the day when I call, Thou answerest me;  
Thou dost encourage me, and put strength into my soul.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall praise Thee, O JEHOVAH!  
When they shall have heard the words of Thy mouth.
- 5 Yea, they shall sing of the ways of JEHOVAH,  
That great is the glory of JEHOVAH!
- 6 Though JEHOVAH is exalted, yet He regardeth the lowly;  
But the haughty, He observeth afar off.
- 7 If I walk in the midst of trouble, Thou revivest me.  
Against the anger of mine enemies,  
Dost Thou put forth Thy hand;  
Yea, Thy right hand saveth me!

## CXXXVIII.

1 *gods*—i. e. kings and judges of the earth, so called as being the representatives of God. See Ps. LXXXII.

1. Note 2. and Ps. cxix. 46. also ver. 4 of this Psalm.

2 *Thou hast magnified Thy word*—i. e. Thou hast more than fulfilled Thy promise. See Ps. XLVIII. 10.

2 *above all Thy Name*—i. e. (Thou hast gone) infinitely beyond all that has ever been said or imagined of Thee.

3 *and put strength into my soul*—Heb. *in my mind strength*.

6 *regardeth*—with favour.  
— *afar off*—i. e. with displeasure.

8 JEHOVAH performeth all things for me.

O JEHOVAH! Thy loving-kindness is everlasting;  
Forsake not the work of Thy hands.

### PSALM CXXXIX.

1 O JEHOVAH! Thou searchest, and knowest me!

2 THOU knowest when I lie down, and when I arise;  
THOU discernest my thoughts, afar off.

3 THOU sittest me, while I journey, and while I rest,  
And art acquainted with all my ways. *357*

4 Before a word is upon my tongue,  
Lo, Thou, O JEHOVAH! knowest all!

5 THOU enclopest me behind and before,  
And layest Thy hand upon me.

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me!  
It is high, I cannot attain unto it!

7 Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit?  
Whither shall I flee from Thy presence?

8 If I go up to heaven, Thou art there!  
If I make my bed in the grave, lo, Thou art there!

9 If I take the wings of the morning,  
And dwell beyond the sea;

*8 the work of Thy hands—i. e. me, whom Thy hands have made. Compare Ps. cxix. 73. Job xiv. 15.*

*— work—Heb. works.—i. e. the various and complicated contrivances which appear in the human frame. See Ps. cxxxix. 14, 15.*

#### CXXXIX.

*2 when I lie down &c.—i. e. God knoweth the most private occupations of the Psalmist's life.*

*— afar off—i. e. while in heaven, Thy dwelling-place. See Ps. cxiii. 6.*

*3 me, while I journey and while I rest—Heb. my path and my lying down.*

*4 all—Heb. all of it. i. e. not only what I am about to utter, but also what is passing in my mind.*

*8 the grave—i. e. Hades, the place of the dead.*

*9 If I take the wings &c.—i. e. If, like the sun in his daily course, I traverse the earth from east to west.*

*— beyond the sea—i. e. in the farthest west. See Ps. Lxxx. 11.*



- 10 Even there doth Thy hand lead me,  
Yea, Thy right hand holdeth me!
- 11 If I say: Surely the darkness will shroud me!  
Then doth the night become day, around me!
- 12 Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee,  
But the night shineth as the day!  
To Thee, the darkness and the light are both alike!
- 13 Truly, Thou hast formed my reins;  
Thou hast clothed me, in the womb of my mother.
- 14 I will praise Thee,  
For I am fearfully and wonderfully made!  
Wonderful are Thy works!  
Yea, my soul knoweth it full well!
- 15 My substance was not hidden from Thee,  
When I was made, in secret—  
When I was curiously wrought, beneath the earth.
- 16 THINE eyes beheld my yet unformed substance;  
And in Thy book, were all my members written,  
In the days, when they were formed,  
And ere yet there was one of them!
- 17 How precious unto me are Thy counsels, O God!  
How great is the sum of them!
- 18 Shall I recount them?  
They are more in number than the sand!  
When I awake, I am still with Thee!

11 *day*—Heb. *light*.

12 *hideth*—Heb. *darkeneth*.

13 *clothed me*—i. e. provided me, whilst in the womb, with that bodily frame, and those organs of sense which were adapted to my after existence. "Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast fenced me with bones and sinews." Job x. 11.

14 *my soul knoweth it full well*—Heb. *my soul knoweth exceedingly*.

15 *in secret*.....*beneath the earth*—

These expressions refer to the darkness of the womb. See ver. 13.

15 *curiously wrought*—Heb. *woven* (as a garment with threads of divers colours).

17 *Thy counsels*—as displayed in the formation of man &c. See Ps. xl. 5.

18 *I am still with Thee*—i. e. On each succeeding morning, I find an ample subject for my meditations in Thy goodness and power. Compare Ps. xvii. 15. Note 5.

- 19 O that Thou wouldest slay the wicked, O God!  
Depart from me, ye blood-thirsty men!
- 20 Who adjure Thee for wicked purposes—  
Who swear falsely by Thy cities.
- 21 Do I not hate those, who hate Thee, O JEHOVAH?  
And am I not grieved at those, who rise up against Thee?
- 22 With perfect hatred do I hate them;  
They are accounted by me as enemies.
- 23 Search me, O God! and know my heart,  
Prove me, and know my thoughts.  
Yea, see if there be any idolatrous way in me,  
And guide me in the ancient way.

## PSALM CXL.

- 1 RESCUE me, O JEHOVAH! from wicked men,  
Preserve me from men of violence!
- 2 Who devise evil in their heart—  
Who, daily, stir up war.
- 3 They sharpen their tongue, as a serpent;  
The poison of asps is under their lips.
- 4 Guard me, O JEHOVAH! from the hands of the wicked,  
Preserve me from men of violence!  
Who devise how to overthrow my feet.

20 *swear*—Heb. *take up*. i. e. upon their lips.

— *cities*—Compare Matt. v. 35.

21 *grieved &c.*—acted upon by mingled feelings of sorrow for them, and loathing at their evil practices. Thus our Lord “looked round about on them with *anger*, being *grieved* for the hardness of their hearts.”—Mark iii. 5.

23 *idolatrous way*—i. e. any disposition to deny to the living God the

honour due to Him, and to worship false gods. “They have burned incense to vanity, and they have caused them to stumble in their ways from the ancient paths, to walk in paths, in a way not cast up.” Jer. xviii. 15.

23 *the ancient way*—“Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the *old paths*, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls.” Jer. vi. 16.

5 The proud hide snares and cords, for me,  
They spread a net, by the side of my path;  
They lay toils for me.

6 I say unto JEHOVAH: THOU art my God!  
Hear, O JEHOVAH! the voice of my supplication.  
7 JEHOVAH-LORD is the strength of my salvation;  
THOU coverest my head, in the day of battle.

8 Grant not, O JEHOVAH! the desires of the wicked;  
Let not their devices prevail, lest they be lifted up.  
9 May the poison of those, who beset me—  
May the mischief of their lips overwhelm them!  
10 May burning coals be thrown down upon them!  
May they be cast into the fire—  
Into whirlpools, whence they cannot rise!

11 Let not the slanderer be established in the land;  
Let wickedness hunt the violent man, to his overthrow.

12 I know that JEHOVAH will maintain  
The cause of the afflicted—the right of the needy.  
13 Truly, the righteous shall sing praise unto Thy Name;  
The upright shall dwell in Thy presence.

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CXL.

9 *poison*—Under this image, the deadly effects of slander are described. Compare vv. 3 and 11.

10 *burning coals*—i. e. lightnings. See Ps. xi. 6. and Ps. xviii. 8.

10 *fire*—Compare Ps. xxi. 9.

— *whirlpools*—See Ps. Lxvi. 12. Note 2.

11 *the slanderer*—Heb. *the man of tongue*. An expression which, proverbially, means a calumniator.

## PSALM CXLI.

- 1 O JEHOVAH! I call upon Thee, hasten unto me;  
Hear my voice, when I call upon Thee.
- 2 My prayer is set before Thee, as the incense—  
The lifting up of my hands, as the evening oblation.
- 3 O JEHOVAH! place a watch upon my mouth;  
Set a guard over the door of my lips.
- 4 Let not my heart incline to any evil thing—  
To commit acts of wickedness, *their acts of wickedness*  
With the men, who work iniquity; *3c*  
Nor let me feed upon their dainties.
- 5 Let the righteous man smite me,  
It will be kindness;  
Yea, let him reprove me,  
It will be oil to my head.  
My head will not shrink from it,  
Though it be done again.  
My prayer is against their acts of wickedness.
- 6 "Their rulers shall be hurled, over the sides of the rock,  
"And men shall hearken to My words, for they are sweet.
- 7 "Their bones shall be scattered, at the mouth of the grave,  
"As when one heweth, and cleaveth wood, upon the ground."

## CXLI.

<sup>2</sup> *incense*—i. e. as regularly as the incense is presented, morning and evening. "Aaron shall burn thereon sweet incense every morning; when he dresseth the lamps, he shall burn incense upon it. And when Aaron lighteth the lamps at even, he shall burn incense upon it, a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations." Exod. xxx. 7, 8.

<sup>4</sup> *Nor let me &c.*—i. e. Let me not participate in their idol-feasts and wicked enjoyments.

<sup>5</sup> *oil*—i. e. fragrant oil with which it was usual for the heads of guests

at feasts to be anointed.

<sup>5</sup> *Though it be done again*—Heb. *though again*.

— *their acts of wickedness*—i. e. the evil practices of the wicked. (See ver. 4.) My prayer is against their acts of wickedness, that I may not be corrupted by them. See Ps. xix. 13.

<sup>6</sup> This and the following verse appear to be the words of Jehovah. See Ps. x. 15. Note.

— *sweet*—Compare Ps. xix. 10. and Ps. xxxiv. 8.

<sup>7</sup> *Their bones*—i. e. the bones of the rulers. Compare Ps. Liii. 5.

— *grave*—Compare Ps. xlii. 14.

- 8 Truly, mine eyes are upon Thee, O JEHOVAH-LORD !  
 With Thee do I take refuge, leave me not defenceless. 4-5  
 9 Guard me from the snare, which they have laid for me,  
 And from the toils of the workers of iniquity. 5-6  
 10 Let the wicked, all together, fall into their own nets;  
 Let me ever pass over them !

## PSALM CXLII.

- 1 WITH my voice, I cry unto JEHOVAH ;  
 With my voice, unto JEHOVAH do I make my supplication.  
 2 I pour out before Him my complaint ;  
 I declare before Him my distress,  
 3 When my spirit within me is faint.

But as for Thee, Thou knowest my path !

In the way, wherein I walk,

Have they hidden a snare for me.

- 4 Look at my right hand, and behold !  
 For there is none, who will know me ;  
 No place of safety is left to me,  
 There is none, who careth for me.

- 5 I cry unto Thee, O JEHOVAH !  
 I say: THOU art my refuge—  
 My portion, in the land of the living !  
 6 Attend unto my cry,  
 For I am brought very low.  
 Deliver me from my pursuers, 11-12  
 For they are too strong for me.

10 pass—i. e. in safety.

## CXLII.

4 Look at my right hand—i. e. Observe that I have no defender. Compare Ps. cix. 31.

4 No place &c.—Heb. the place of refuge hath perished from me.

— careth for me—Heb. seeketh out for my life—i. e. feels any friendly anxiety for my welfare and safety.

7 Bring me out of my prison,  
That I may praise Thy Name. *At. a. i.*

The righteous will compass me about,  
When Thou shalt deal kindly by me.

### PSALM CXLIII.

1 O JEHOVAH! hear my prayer;  
Hearken unto my supplication.  
In Thy faithfulness answer me, even in Thy goodness!  
2 And enter not into judgment with Thy servant,  
For no man living is righteous, before Thee!

3 Truly, mine enemy <sup>45</sup>pursueth me,  
He casteth me alive to the ground, and crusheth me;  
He maketh me dwell in darkness, as those long dead.  
4 My spirit within me is faint;  
My heart within me is stunned!

5 I call to mind the days of old,  
I meditate upon all Thy doings;  
I muse upon the work of Thy hands.  
6 I spread forth my hands, toward Thee;  
My soul thirsteth for Thee, as a weary land.

7 Quickly answer me, O JEHOVAH!  
My spirit faileth.

7 *compass*—to rejoice with me upon my deliverance. Compare Ps. cxix. 79.

#### CXLIII.

3 *casteth &c.*—Heb. *crusheth me alive to the ground*. Compare Ps. vii. 5. Note 1.

— *He maketh me &c.*—i. e. He reduces me, by his violence, to a state of utter insensibility. This, so long

as it continues, resembles the darkness of death. Compare Ps. vii. 5. and Ps. lxxxviii. 3—6.

6 *spread forth my hands*—in prayer.

— *My soul &c.*—See Ps. lxiii. 1.

— *a weary land*—i. e. a land burnt up and exhausted for want of moisture “..... as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.” Isai. xxxii. 2.

- Hide not Thy face from me,  
 For I am as those, who go down into the pit.  
 8 Let me early perceive Thy loving-kindness;  
 For in Thee do I place my confidence.  
 Show me the way, wherein I should walk; 35  
 For unto Thee do I lift up my soul.  
 9 Deliver me from mine enemies, O JEHOVAH!  
 I take shelter with Thee.  
 10 Teach me to do Thy will,  
 For Thou art my God. 40  
 Let Thy good Spirit lead me in the path of rectitude.  
 11 Revive me, O JEHOVAH! for Thy Name's sake;  
 In Thy goodness,  
 Bring me out of my distress.  
 12 And, in Thy loving-kindness,  
 Cause mine enemies to perish,  
 Yea, destroy all mine adversaries;  
 For I am Thy servant.

## PSALM CXLIV.

- 1 BLESSED be JEHOVAH, my rock! 45  
 He traineth my hands for the fight—  
 My fingers for the battle!  
 2 My benefactor, and my fortress,  
 My tower, and my deliverer; 50  
 My shield, yea, He, with whom I take refuge!  
 He subdueth the nations under me!  
 3 O JEHOVAH! what is man,  
 That Thou carest for him!  
 What the son of mortal man,  
 That Thou takest thought of him!

7 am—See ver. 3. Note 2.

8 perceive—Heb. *hear, be sensible*  
 of. i. e. be satisfied, by clear and  
 evident tokens, of.

## CXLIV.

2 benefactor—Heb. *mercy*.

3 what—i. e. how utterly insigni-  
 ficant! Compare Ps. viii. 4.

- 4 Man is like a breath!  
His days are as a shadow, which is passing away!
- 5 O JEHOVAH! bow Thy heavens, <sup>ver. 15-7</sup> and come down;  
Touch the mountains, and they shall smoke! <sup>10-12</sup>
- 6 Hurl Thy lightnings, and scatter them,  
Send forth Thine arrows, and discomfit them.
- 7 Put forth Thy hand from on high;  
Rescue me, and deliver me from mighty waters—  
From the hand of the sons of the alien;
- 8 Whose mouth speaketh lies,  
And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood!
- 9 I will sing a new song unto Thee, O God!  
With the ten-stringed lute, will I hymn unto Thee!
- 10 HE giveth victory unto kings—  
HE rescueth David, His servant, from the destroying sword.
- 11 Rescue me, and deliver me  
From the hand of the sons of the alien;  
Whose mouth speaketh lies,  
And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood!
- 12 O that our sons may be, as plants,  
Well-grown in their youth!—  
That our daughters may be, as corner-pillars,  
Skilfully carved to adorn a palace!—

4 *breath*—See Ps. xc. 9. Note 2.  
— *passing away*—i. e. just at the instant of its disappearing entirely.  
Compare Ps. cii. 11. Note.

5 *bow*—Compare Ps. xviii. 9. Note 1.

— *smoke*—See Ps. civ. 32. Note.

6 *them*—i. e. mine enemies.

7 *sons of the alien*—i. e. idolatrous people.

8 *a right hand of falsehood*—In the

act of swearing it was usual to lift up the hand towards heaven. Thus Abram said to the king of Sodom, "I have lift up my hand unto the Lord.....that I will not take" &c. Gen. xiv. 22, 23. Compare also Exod. vi. 8. and Margin.

10 *victory*—Heb. *salvation*.

12 *to adorn*—Heb. (for) *the building of*.



- 13 That our granaries may be full,  
And supply all kinds of provision!—  
That our sheep may bring forth thousands,  
Yea, tens of thousands in our fields!—
- 14 That our kine may be heavy with young!—  
That there be no violent—no premature bringing forth,  
Nor any cry of distress in our streets!
- 15 Happy the people, who are in such a state!  
Happy the people, whose God is JEHOVAH!

## PSALM CXLV.

- 1 I WILL extol Thee, O my God and King!  
Yea, I will bless Thy Name, for ever and ever.
- 2 Every day, will I bless Thee,  
And praise Thy Name, for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is JEHOVAH, and highly to be praised,  
Yea, His greatness is unsearchable!
- 4 Through all generations, men shall praise Thy doings,  
And shall proclaim Thy mighty deeds.
- 5 I will tell of the glorious splendour of Thy majesty,  
And of Thy wonderful works.
- 6 Yea, they shall speak of the might of Thy fearful acts,  
And I will declare Thy greatness.
- 7 They shall pour forth memorials of Thy great goodness,  
And sing of Thy righteousness.
- 8 Gracious and merciful is JEHOVAH,  
Slow to anger, and abundant in loving-kindness.

14 cry—for want of food. “There is a crying for wine in the streets; all joy is darkened, the mirth of the land is gone. In the city is left desolation, and the gate is smitten with destruction.” Isai. xxiv. 11, 12.

## CXLV.

This is an alphabetical Psalm, constructed similarly to Psalms xxv. and xxxiv. Compare Ps. xxv. Introductory Note.

*a abundant*—Heb. *great*.

- 9 JEHOVAH is good unto all;  
Yea, His tender mercies are over all His works.
- 10 All Thy works praise Thee, O JEHOVAH! *Psalm*  
And Thy pious worshippers bless Thee.
- 11 They speak of the glory of Thy kingdom,  
And talk of Thy greatness.
- 12 They make known unto the sons of men His mighty acts,  
And the glorious splendour of His kingdom.
- 13 THY kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
And Thy dominion endureth through all generations.
- 14 JEHOVAH upholdeth all, who are falling,  
And maketh erect all, who are bowed down. *Psalm*
- 15 The eyes of all wait upon Thee,  
And Thou givest them their food in due season.
- 16 THOU openest Thy hand,  
And satisfiest the desire of every living creature.
- 17 Righteous is JEHOVAH in all His ways, <sup>351</sup>  
And merciful in all His doings. *Psalm*
- 18 JEHOVAH is nigh unto all, who call upon Him—  
Unto all, who call upon Him, in truth.
- 19 HE fulfilleth the desire of those, who reverence Him,  
Yea, He heareth their cry, and saveth them.
- 20 JEHOVAH preserveth all those, who love Him;  
But all the wicked, He destroyeth.
- 21 My mouth shall speak the praise of JEHOVAH;  
And let all flesh bless His holy Name, for ever and ever!

18 *in truth*—"God is a spirit, and | Him in spirit and *truth*." John iv.  
they that worship Him, must worship | 24.

## PSALM CXLVI.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

O my soul, praise JEHOVAH!

2 I will praise JEHOVAH, as long as I live,

I will hymn unto my God, while I have my being.

3 Place not your confidence in princes—

In a child of man, with whom is no help.

4 His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth,

In that day, his devices come to nothing!

5 Happy he, who hath the God of Jacob for his help—

Whose hope is in JEHOVAH, his God!

6 HE made the heavens and the earth,

The sea, and all, which is therein!

7 HE preserveth His faithfulness for ever!

HE executeth judgment for the oppressed!

HE giveth food to the hungry!

JEHOVAH setteth the captive free!

8 JEHOVAH openeth the eyes of the blind!

JEHOVAH maketh erect those, who are bowed down!

JEHOVAH loveth the righteous!

9 JEHOVAH preserveth the stranger!

HE raiseth up the fatherless, and the widow;

But maketh crooked the path of the wicked!

JEHOVAH reigneth for ever!

Thy God, O Sion, to all generations!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

## CXLVI.

3 in *princes*—See Ps. cxviii. 8, 9.

— *help*—Heb. *salvation*.

4 to his *earth*—i. e. to the earth, out of which he was taken. See Gen. iii. 19.

6 *therein*—i. e. in the heavens, earth and sea.

9 *raiseth up*—i. e. enableth them to maintain their right.

— *maketh crooked* &c.—i. e. God prevents the wicked from arriving at that point at which they were aiming; in other words, He defeats their designs. Compare Ps. xxiii. 3. Note 2.

## PSALM CXLVII.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH !

For it is good to hymn our God !

For it is delightful !

Praise is becoming !

2 JEHOVAH buildeth Jerusalem ;

HE gathereth together the dispersed of Israel.

3 HE healeth the broken in heart,

And assuageth their griefs. 971

4 HE counteth the number of the stars ;

HE giveth names to all of them.

5 Great is our Lord, and mighty in power ;

HIS understanding is infinite !

6 JEHOVAH raiseth up the afflicted ; *musick*

HE bringeth low the wicked, even to the ground.

7 Sing unto JEHOVAH, with a song of praise,

Hymn unto our God, with the harp !

8 HE covereth the heavens with clouds,

HE prepareth rain for the earth ;

HE causeth the grass to spring up, on the mountains.

9 HE giveth their food to the cattle,

And to the young ravens, which call upon Him. *Psalm 104*

10 HE hath no pleasure in the strength of the horse, 601

HE hath no delight in man's swiftness of foot.

11 JEHOVAH delighteth in those, who reverence Him—

Who wait in confidence for His loving-kindness.

## CXLVII.

1 *good*—See Ps. xcii. 1. and Note.

— *becoming*—See Ps. xxxiii. 1.

2 *dispersed &c.*—i. e. the Israelites driven from their country into other lands.

3 *assuageth*—Heb. *bindeth up*.

4 *the mountains*—See Ps. civ. 13.

5 *call*—Compare Ps. civ. 21. "Who

provideth for the raven his food?  
when his young ones cry unto God,  
they wander for lack of meat." Job  
xxxviii. 41.

10 "The race is not to the swift  
nor the battle to the strong." Eccles.  
ix. 11.

— *swiftness of foot*—Heb. *legs*.  
Compare Ps. xxxiii. 17. Note.

- 12 Laud JEHOVAH, O Jerusalem!  
Praise thy God, O Sion!
- 13 For He strengtheneth the bars of thy gates;  
HE blesseth thy children within thee.
- 14 He establisheth peace in thy borders,  
HE filleth thee with the finest wheat.
- 15 HE sendeth His command upon the earth;  
His word runneth very swiftly!
- 16 HE giveth snow, as wool;  
HE scattereth the hoar-frost, as ashes.
- 17 HE casteth down His ice, in pieces!  
Before His cold, who can stand?
- 18 HE sendeth His word, and melteth them;  
HE causeth His wind to blow, and waters flow down!
- 19 HE hath declared His commandments, unto Jacob—  
His statutes, and judgments, unto Israel.
- 20 HE hath not dealt thus with any other nation,  
Yea, they have not known His judgments!  
Praise ye JEHOVAH!

## PSALM CXLVIII.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

- Praise JEHOVAH, O ye in the heavens!  
Praise Him, O ye on high!
- 2 Praise Him, all ye His angels!  
Praise Him, all ye His hosts!
- 14 in thy borders—and thus provides for the tranquillity of all the land that lies within them.  
— the finest wheat—Heb. the fat of wheat.
- 15 runneth—See Ps. xix. 5. Note 2.
- 16 as wool—resembling wool in whiteness.
- 17 ice in pieces—i. e. the hail.
- 18 them—i. e. the snow, hoar-frost and hail.
- 20 they—i. e. other nations.

## CXLVIII.

- 1 O ye &c.—Heb. out of the heavens.  
i. e. all things in the heavens.

- 3 Praise Him, sun and moon!  
Praise Him, all ye stars of light!
- 4 Praise Him, ye highest heavens!  
And ye waters, which are above the heavens!
- 5 Let them praise the Name of JEHOVAH,  
For He gave command, and they were created!
- 6 HE causeth them to stand for ever;  
HE hath given laws, which they do not transgress!
- 7 Praise JEHOVAH, O ye upon earth!  
Ye sea-monsters, and all deeps!
- 8 Ye lightnings and hail, ye snow and mist! *remotion of*  
Thou, stormy wind, which executest His command!
- 9 Ye mountains, and all hills!  
Ye trees bearing fruit, and all cedars!
- 10 Ye wild beasts, and all cattle!  
Ye creeping things, and winged birds!
- 11 Ye kings of the earth, and all nations!  
Ye princes, and all rulers of the earth!
- 12 Ye young men, and maidens! *823*  
Ye old men, and children!
- 13 Let them praise the Name of JEHOVAH,  
For His Name alone is exalted—  
His glory, above earth and heaven! *majesty, glory, etc.*
- 14 HE lifteth up the horn of His people,  
HE is the praise of all His pious worshippers— *of men as of*  
Of the children of Israel— *pious men*  
Of the people, which is nigh unto Him!
- Praise ye JEHOVAH!

3 stars of light—i. e. stars giving light.

4 highest heavens—Heb. heavens of heavens.

4 waters—See Ps. xxix. 3. Note 2.

7 O ye &c.—Heb. out of the earth. i. e. all things upon the earth.

8 lightnings—Heb. fire.

## PSALM CXLIX.

## 1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

- Sing unto JEHOVAH a new song;  
 Sing His praise, in the assembly of the pious!  
 2 Let Israel rejoice in Him, who made him;  
 Let the children of Sion exult in their King!  
 3 Let them praise His Name, in the dance;  
 Let them sing psalms unto Him, with timbrel and harp!  
 4 For JEHOVAH delighteth in His people;  
 HE adorneth the afflicted with victory.  
 5 Let the pious exult, in their glory,  
 Let them sing aloud, upon their beds!  
 6 Let the praises of God be in their mouth,  
 And a two-edged sword, in their hand;  
 7 To execute vengeance upon the heathen—  
 Chastisement upon the nations!  
 8 To bind their kings with chains,  
 And their nobles with fetters of iron!  
 9 To execute upon them the written sentence!

This honour have all His pious worshippers.

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

14 horn—See Ps. xviii. 2. Note.  
 — praise—See Ps. xxii. 3. Note.  
 — nigh unto Him—"For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for?" Deut. iv. 7. Compare also Ps. Lxv. 4.

## CXLIX.

- 2 who made him—Compare Ps. c.  
 3. Note 1.  
 4 victory—Heb. *salvation*. i. e.

victory over all their enemies.

5 glory—i. e. the honour which, through the favour of their God, they have obtained by triumphing over their enemies.

— upon their beds—Compare Ps. iv. 4. Note 2.

6 praises—Heb. *exaltations*.

— mouth—Heb. *throat*.

9 the written sentence—This appears to refer to some fearful judgement, which had been declared by God against the heathen nations.

## PSALM CL.

1 PRAISE ye JEHOVAH!

Praise God in His sanctuary!

Praise Him for the firmament of His power! *sheng ch.*

2 Praise Him for His mighty deeds,

Praise Him for His abundant greatness!

3 Praise Him with the sound of the trumpet,

Praise Him with lute, and harp!

4 Praise Him with timbrel, and dance,

Praise Him with stringed instruments, and psaltery!

5 Praise Him with the soft cymbals,

Praise Him with the loud cymbals!

6 Let every thing, which hath breath, praise JEHOVAH!

Praise ye JEHOVAH!

CL.

1 *firmament*—See Ps. xix. 1, 2.

5 *soft cymbals*—Heb. *cymbals of*

*hearing*, i. e. cymbals which, when struck, do not overpower the voices of the singers.

THE END.